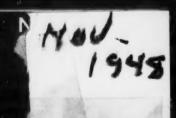
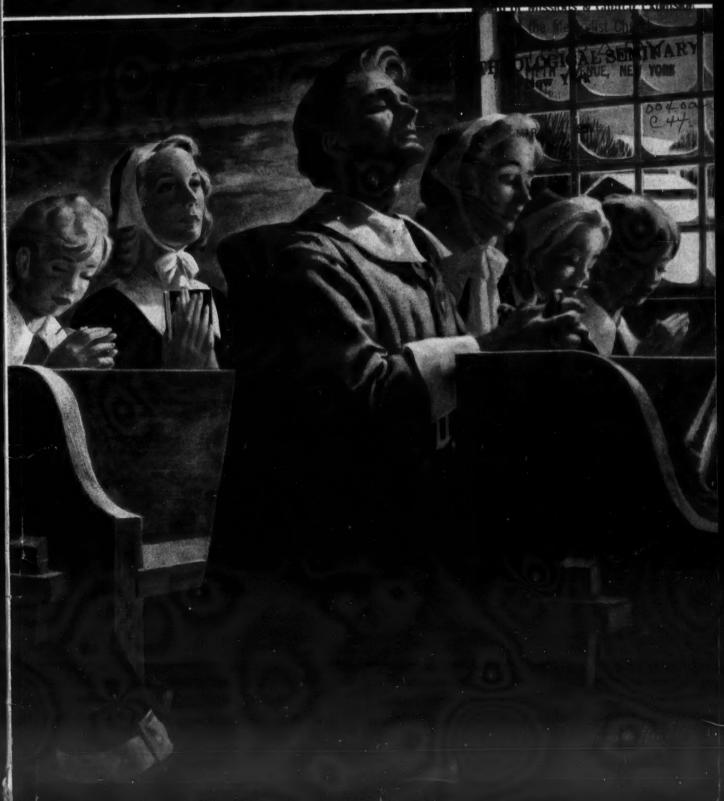
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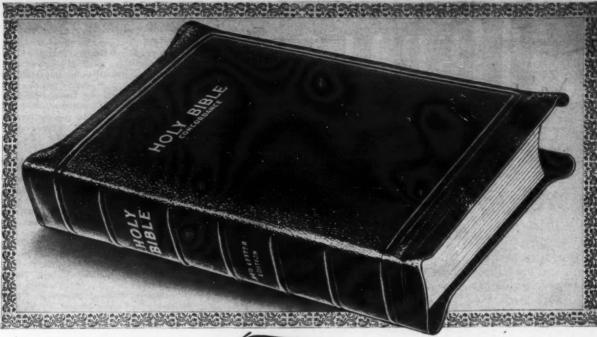
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HRISTIAN

VOL. 71

No. 11

OUR PLATFORM: Christian Herald is a family magazine for all denominations, dedicated to this platform: To advance the cause of Evangelical Christianity; to serve the needy at home and abroad; to achieve temperance through education; to champion religious, social and economic tolerance; to make Church unity a reality; to labor for a just and lasting peace; to work with all who seek a Christlike world.

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DANIEL A. POLING, Editor

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among Those Present

Thomas E. Dewey (Our Most Important Shortage, page 21), governor of New York and the Republican presidential



candidate, was born in Owosso, Mich., in the early years of the present century. He studied law at Michigan U. and Columbia in New York.

In 1931 Gov. Dewey began his notable career with his appointment as a

Chief Assistant U. S. Attorney; four years later he was named Special Prosecutor and immediately opened fire on New York City racketeers and crooked politicians. His successes were emblazoned on the front pages; his victims were the notorious Dutch Schultz, "Tootsie" Herbert, "Lepke" Buchalter, as well as political leaders James Hines, William Solomon, Charles Schneider and many others.

In 1937 Gov. Dewey was elected Dis-trict Attorney of New York County; the next year he ran for the governorship of New York but was defeated, by a close margin, by Herbert Lehman. In 1942 he was again candidate for the governorship, and this time he won by a substantial

Four years ago the governor pitted himself against Franklin D. Roosevelt for the presidency. He lost then and now a great majority of Americans are breathlessly awaiting the outcome of his forthcoming tussle with President Truman for the highest post in the land.

Janette T. Harrington feels that writing The Fisherman and 1 (page 61) was a busman's holiday for her whose

regular occupation is associate editor of Presbyterian Life, the new national magazine of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. She is a fairly recent newcomer to the religious journalism field, having spent the wartime years in



Washington as a newswriter for OWI and OPA.

A native of Ohio, Miss Harrington attended Ohio State and held various newspaper and public relations posts in eastern U.S. before the war. She also taught a Sunday-school class and sang in the choir at Northminster Presbyterian Church, Columbus, O. A year ago when she went out to Los Angeles innocently enough to attend the annual convention of Theta Sigma Phi, national fraternity for women in journalism, she returned as its national president.

J. Alvin Kugelmass (He Gave Them Windows, page 19) is copy-editor on New York's youngest newspaper, the New York Star, which rose phoenix-like several weeks ago from the ashes of provocative, ill-fated PM. Previously, Mr. Kugelmass

worked on Washington, Louisville and West Coast papers, as well as Esquire and Newsweek. He has contributed, according to his own un-notarized statement, "to almost every newsstand magazine, both here and abroad." A nice conservative remark, we'd say. He has little hope of peace in our time. His greatest despair is to see the wrong persons achieve recognition, which melancholy fact induced his piece on Louis Braille, "an unsung giant with a luminous quality."

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"Likely my personal history is not very lively, but it does indicate a good appetite undisturbed by the sadness all about us both here and in foreign reaches," continues Mr. Kugelmass. "I would go unnoticed in a large crowd were it not for the penchant of shouldering the guy next to me, which any Freudian would pounce upon as a clue to the shrinking man inside." He also adds, with delightful non sequitur, that he is "possessed of one extremely noisy boy-child, 2, who is my severest critic in that all my mss. look grubby after he fingers them."

Mary Alice Jones (Books Are Bridges, page 73) is an authority in the field of children's religious education. She is the



ductation. She is three well known "Tell Me" books: "Tell Me a bout God," "Tell Me about the Bible." Miss Jones (actually it should be Dr. Jones, since she holds a Ph.D. from Yale) was born in

Dallas; for five years she was editor of children's publications of the M. E. Church, South. Since 1928 she has been director of children's works for the International' Council of Religious Education and has taught and lectured throughout the country. In 1945 she joined Rand McNally as children's book editor.

John Homer Miller (The Virtue of a Grateful Heart, page 30) is the minister of Hope Congregational Church, Spring-

field, Mass., which with its 2800 members is one of the four largest Congregational churches in the U. S. Under the direction of Dr. Miller and two ordained associates, nearly 3000 folks participate in its four-fold program of worship,



education, recreation and community service.

Dr. Miller is a graduate of Harvard and the Boston University School of Theology. He has written two books: "Take a Look at Yourself" and "Why We Act That Way," both of which sold a number of printings in this country and in England. He has also published three booklets which are widely used by ministers of all denominations: "Our Marriage," "Your Marriage to the Church," and "My Baptism." He has traveled extensively in the U. S.; visited every country in Europe as well as the land of the Soviets.



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BRITISH RAILWAYS



Sunday Movies

 One of the boys in my Sunday-school class argues what is wrong with Sunday movies; what is the difference between going Monday and Sunday. Can you heln me?

Moscow, PA. W. E. I.

Always in my family we have kept Sunday as a day not only sacred but different. This is important for body and mind as well as for the soul. Perhaps along this line you may proceed in discussing the issue of Sunday movies with the boys of your class.

God's Forgiveness

· Does God forgive us everythingworry and the rest? CALDWELL, IDAHO A. R. C.

Certainly God will forgive us-forgive us everything. You may put your trust in Him and remember what Isaiah said: "I will trust and not be afraid."

Hollywood Godless?

• I am told that Hollywood is a godless place-that the community is another Sodom. Are all the movie stars like those who get the headlines?

They are not. Publicity is generally associated with those who are guilty of indiscretions. The thousands who fill the less publicized positions and who live normal lives do not get into the news. Some of the largest and most active Christian churches in America are located in Hollywood. Dr. Louis H. Evans, minister of the First Presbyterian Church-perhaps the largest church of this denomination in the world-could give you the names of real people in his community who are thoroughly worthy and Christian.

Insulting Letters

• When you receive an insulting letter questioning your honesty, quoting scripture piously, but revealing none of the "fruits of the spirit," what do you do? G. M. AMES, IOWA

My secretary may reply as follows: "Your letter has been received by Dr. Poling. To your letter and to all others like it there is no reply. There will be no reply!"

Religious Oppression in U.S.S.R.

• Do you have any personal and direct evidence of recent Russian oppression of religious groups from within Russia or in countries under her sway? PENSACOLA, FLA. L. B. D.

Within the month I have talked to three clergymen, refugees from Estonia who fled to the forest to escape the Communist gestapo. Their survival is another miracle. Had they been captured there would have been no trial for them and had they not been executed, they would have been sent to Siberia.

Liquor Costs

• Is there any official record for the cost to American people of liquor consumed in the United States through the last ten years?

MANCHESTER, N. H.

Yes. Released on June 11, 1948 by the Office of Business Economics, Department of Commerce, are these figures I quote. Total expenditures for alcoholic beverages including public revenues amounted to \$9.6 billion in 1947. This includes distilled spirits, wine and beer, whether bought in packaged form or by the drink. Public revenues derived by federal, state and local governments from sales of alcoholic beverages amounted to \$3.1 billion, roughly \$400 million less than in 1946.

Total expenditures for alcoholic beverages are as follows, beginning in 1939

and including 1947.

nu meruding	4 100			
Year		Tc	tal	
1939	\$3	billion	630	million
1940	3	99	870	39
1941	4	9.9	555	39
1942	5	39	670	99
1943	6	99	640	33
1944	7	99	865	37
1945		99	615	99
1946	9	99	500	99
1947		37	640	27

An increase of more than six billion dollars in seven years!

"Modernists"

· Recently my ire was aroused when 1 heard Christian Herald criticized as too modern. What does this mean? I don't believe it. If suppers and dinners are given for church purposes some people say "modern." Generally the criticism comes from those who are personally opposed to what certain church workers are doing. What I read in the Bible about Jesus indicates that He was criticized as being a "modernist." Well, then, aren't we all or shouldn't we all be? (Continued on page 6)

SHOUT IT FROM THE HOUSETOPS! IT'S TIME TO HELP THE JEWS!

WORLD crisis is here, whether it be the last one God alone knows. The Devil may fool some by another spell of trumped-up prosperity. The apostles of Peace-without-Christ, and the United-Nations-without-God may fool themselves with a few more World

with a few more World Peace "Treaties"; but the scripture truth is that this world is doomed. Doomed to midnight darkness because it has rejected the Lord Jesus Christ. And in days of darkness it is well to watch the Jew! For in God's unimpeachable sovereignty, He has ordained that on Israel's destiny there also hangs world destiny.

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Zionism is at grips with death itself! Contrary to the thought of many, Zionism is not the solution to the Jewish problem, it only intensifies it. And now with a new "Republic of Israel," in fiat existence, the day of

the Anti-Christ is startlingly accelerated. The only solution to the Jewish problem is the Lord Jesus Christ. And as the Jews become disillusioned with Zionism, and begin to lose hope in Judaism itself, is it not clearly God's purpose that we as Christians shall step into the breach and point them to their Saviour and Messiah, their only hope?

It is time to help the Jews! Nazism has killed them by the millions. They have been driven from their homes, separated from their loved ones. There is now no foot of ground in all of Central Europe where the weary feet of the homeless Jews can find a place to rest.

It is time to help the Jews! They themselves are in a state of flux. Their Judaism is going, they fear to turn to the Church, because sadly enough, the Church has held out to them no beckoning finger of welcome. Wherever this has been done, the results have been little short of marvelous. For God's promise still is good, "The Gospel... is the pow-

er of God unto salvation . . . to the Jew first."

The Challenge of the Jew

It's time to help the Jews! In great crises of history, the helping of the Jews was the vital base of God's acof duty in behalf of a people now facing the spectacle of a world civilization organized in solid mass for the greatest outburst of Jew-hate the world has ever known.



Every facility we possess, every shred of experience God has given us in these fifty-four years of Gospel approach to the Jews, all must now be bent to bring to these pitiful victims of world hate our bit of Christian comfort and help. We are cabling money as fast as we can to our relief centers in Europe and Palestine.

We ask that the Lord's people shall stand behind us, that they shall not place upon us the burden of raising money. Money must flow into our treasury in a continuous stream, that we may pour it out again to comfort the families who now sit in the shadow of a great

sorrow, and who need desperately the message of salvation made possible only because of the shed blood of Israel's Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ

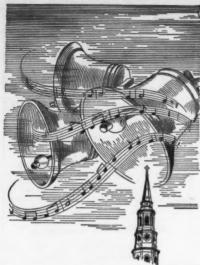
Ask God what your share shall be, then fill out the coupon. You will also receive the Chosen People each month. May God help us to do what is right before Him in this solemn hour of world cataclysm.



tion. In the black night of Egypt's charnel-house, the Egyptians themselves, dazed and panic-stricken, helped the Jews! In the hour of deliverance from the clutches of Haman, "They that did the king's business, helped the Jews!"

"I Must Help the Jews"! In the face of such a crisis, may God help His Church to awake! May we, who are truly His, fill to the full our measure

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SELLERSVILLE, PA.



Yes, by that test I think we all should be! The letter from which this question comes is in every way forthright and wise. My answer is within the question. As to suppers and dinners for church support, personally I am a tither but also I go to the suppers and dinners. I decline to fashion an arbitrary standard by which all are to be judged. Again I recall that St. Paul said, "The letter killeth, the spirit giveth life."

One-Syllable Sermons

• Recently in a Children's Day program the pastor, who had been requested to preach an appropriate sermon, gave a wonderful message to the grown-ups on how they should set a good example before their sons and daughters. Don't you think the brother lost a great opportunity? Why can't you preachers preach more one-syllable sermons? I hate to force my own children, ages 15 and 13, to remain when they get so little. Isn't it a fact that adults, too, enjoy the simple message that inspires the child?

ROCK ISLAND, ILL. Mrs. O. H.

Really now, this question requires no answer. It is the answer. Yes I think the brother lost a great opportunity but perhaps he did accept another, even though he went after the mothers and dads in the presence of their sons and daughters which isn't so good. One New York minister became famous for his sermons to children. The adults went just to hear what he said to the boys and girls.

Movies

• You will be glad to know that one of our churchmembers who operates the local movie house, is following the motion-picture recommendations of Christian Herald. Last week he canceled a picture after reading your review. That cost him \$75. Keep up this vital work. Isn't a manager such as ours worthy of encouragement?

Thanks to Walter E. Rowoldt of St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Pender, Nebraska, for an inspiring letter. With such encouragement as his, it will be easier than ever to keep up this "good work." And our orchids to the manager of that movie house. May his tribe increase!

Reno Social Note

• I enclose a clipping from the "Arkansas Democrat," Little Rock, which is titled "Reno Social Item." What do you have to say about it? Ozark, Ark. U. L. L.

The clipping contains the following sentences: "The return of legalized prostitution to Reno today had a go-ahead from the state courts, but a fight was shaping up in other quarters . . . The 'stockade' housing 20 to 30 girls on a

24-hour basis, was closed during the war at the request of military authorities." There are other sickening details involving the ruling of State District Judge Brown that because the war emergency had ended the old "stockade" could reopen. Brown reversed a lower-court conviction. What I think about the whole sorry business is too hot to print. I don't use the language. My hope lies in the fact "a fight is shaping in other quarters."

Fermented Wine

 Why do some chaplains use fermented wine at their communion services?

Luther D. Miller, Chief of Chaplains, answers as follows: "They are acting in accordance with the customs and canons of their Churches. Missouri Synod Lutheran and Episcopalian chaplains, for example, in accordance with the ancient practice and their religious traditions, use fermented wine and unleavened bread at celebrations of the Holy Communion. Baptists and Methodists, on the other hand, in accordance with the dictates of their Churches, use unfermented wine, and sometimes, whatever bread is available. The Department of the Army in no way interferes with the choice of elements used in Holy Communion.

"The conflicts and differences in Protestant faith and practice create grave problems. Nevertheless, the Army makes every effort to answer the particular religious practices of its personnel. In the event a soldier finds that the chaplain's traditions conflict with the soldier's own practice, the Army either arranges to bring in suitable clergymen, or provides the soldier with transportation to some nearby church."

Decent Books

• Why not publish more religious books and worthwhile decent fiction in a price range of the average young person? All sorts of suggestive and bad literature is published in popular editions. SHELLTOWN, MD. Mrs. G. W. B.

There are some good books in popular editions but too few. Here is a suggestion for publishers. We are passing it on to those who advertise in Chrus-

TIAN HERALD.

Help for the Needy

▶ I have been a Christian Herald subscriber for twenty-five years. I am crippled now and cannot get out. Recently a winter coat was given me that I will mend and send to the Bowery Mission. Would it help some needy person?

BEACON, N. Y. Mrs. S. E. T.

Indeed, it would help some needy person and already the letter containing this question has helped all of us.

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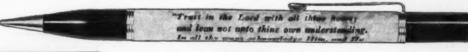


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THE UPPER ROOM . 1908 GRAND AVE. . NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE





By DELBERT LEAN

You can take my word for it that our neighbor, Henry Hacker, is mature. Just three minutes in the light of Henry's blue-gray eyes will convince you that a wise and understanding heart is behind the quick smile, the kindly good humor.

Yet Henry is a boy, a callow youngster, when it comes to surprises. A tenyear-old could not get more fun out of arranging surprises than does Henry.

Take the other morning, for instance. Vee and I, as usual, went to see what changes had taken place in our small garden since the night before. The rain had freshened everything; an iris had opened, the dahlias were a little higher, the last rambler roses had taken a new lease on life.

Now, Henry's garden is near by and we generally stroll over to look at his after we have seen and exclaimed over our own. The path runs through the sumacs and the pines in back of our place. We hadn't been over to his garden for a few days; it had rained and we had been busy. But this morning we went down the path—and ran smack into one of Henry's carefully planned surprises.

He always plans them ahead, having much fun in so doing. And when he has a good one ready, he wants to be right there to see how it goes over. Henry is a patient man; he had been planning this surprise for months.

We have no morning glories on our place. Never did. And I don't really know why, for they're easy enough to grow if you keep the chipmunks away. I knew that Henry had planted morning-glory seed and I knew the seeds were sprouting. Also he had built a

framework, twelve-feet high, for the vines.

This morning, as we walked along the well-worn path, we saw through the sumac branches a brilliant, shining patch of azure blue where we had never seen a patch of blue before. It was a mass of deep, deep blue, like an Arizona sky.

For a moment we were puzzled; then it came to us-Henry's morning glories were in bloom!

We feasted on their beauty; it thrilled us to the marrow. It was the loveliest display of garden flowers we had ever seen! A pillar of blue flowers . . . hundreds of blue morning glories against the morning sky!

Henry had been waiting for us and as we stood entranced, his voice came from the kitchen door: "Well, how do you like my flowers?" He joined us and we all exulted together.

And that's the way Henry works his surprises. We never know just what it will be, nor where to look for it, but he will come up with one or two good surprises every year. His neighbors count on it.

Last summer, it was a squash. It seems that Henry had bought a very special kind of seed, guaranteed to produce enormous squashes. The idea of secretly growing a mammoth squash and then disclosing it to his astonished neighbors seemed like good, boyish fun to Henry. He planted the seeds in an inconspicous corner of his garden. In our almost daily inspection, he never led us to them. But when one day I came upon a vine and a squash that was much bigger than any I had ever

(Continued on page 114)

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By Amos John Traver

• Sunday, November 7th

DRAMA IN THE BIBLE

JOB 1:1; 2:1-6; 23:10; 42:1-6, 10

RAMA began in the days when few could read. It was a form of instruction, often used to teach religious history and truth. The ancients knew nothing of art for art's sake. The first plays were not for entertainment. How the theater has degenerated! That Job is a drama was proved for me by the production of the entire book, without omissions or amendments, on the stage of a small New York theater many years ago. There was no scenery, only heavy grey curtains as a background. God was not seen, but His voice was heard. It was a reverent and impressive production. The historical character of the book may be questioned, but its art and message place it among the world's greatest dramas. The time it was written and the author are unknown. That makes no difference, for the message of Job is vital to every age.

"The Reality of Disinterested Religion" is the title chosen by Dr. Harris Kirk for a lecture on Job. The question raised by Satan was whether anyone served God for Himself alone, or for what he could get out of Him. Satan is still doing business. When someone does a particularly good deed how often we ask, "I wonder what he thinks he will get out of that?" Let the cynical critic of good men remember the com-

pany he keeps!

Job presents the problem of affliction. It is no problem when a notoriously wicked man is afflicted. True, Job did not claim perfection, yet he was not conscious of any particular sin that merited his trouble. It is also probable that when he had been prosperous and healthy he was not conscious of any particular goodness that merited it.

The story of Job is dramatic. He did not know that he was to be tested. He had goods; family, with evidences of real affection and good fellowship; and health. First goods and family were swept away. Still he kept his faith in God. Then in answer to Satan's second challenge, he was afflicted with boils. His wife told him to "curse God and die." Then to top his misery four friends came to "sympathize" with him. He had to listen to their harangues, the burden of which was that he must have sinned and should repent and throw himself on God's mercy. The first three

who delivered orations to poor, patient Job represented typical approaches to the problem of human suffering. Eliphaz had had a dream. The very day and hour of this experience was noted. It was on authority of this personal experience that he ventured to advise Job. Bildad cited the traditions, quoting many a well-known proverb. Zophar claimed to know God so well that he could predict what would happen. Elihu, the self-confident youth, gave the most boring speech of all. He was sure that the God of the universe was too great to be bothered with a little man like Job. They were all "dogmatists," as Dr. Kirk suggests, not bringing arguments so much as making declarations. They had Job down and they proceeded to tell him off!

ALL AGREED that prosperity and good health are signs of a righteous life while affliction is the punishment of some particular sin. This was the belief of the age and still gives bias to our judgment of others. Job was nearly convinced that they were right, but never fully. He still knew of no special sin for which he should repent. He still believed in God. But he did utter mighty complaints to God and God answered him. God did not explain his afflictions, but He did assure him that his loyalty had not gone unnoticed. So was Job's faith justified. "I know that my redeemer liveth" is the creed of patience in affliction. The word "redeemer" may be translated "vindicator." The faith of Job in God and the confidence of God in Job were both vindicated. Finally all that Job had lost was restored with interest. He had stood the test.

The men of Job's time had little of the support we have in time of trouble. They had little idea of life after death. We believe that there will come a time when the balance of justice will be struck, if not in this world, in the next. They also had to face trouble without knowledge of Christ. Christian martyrs suffered persecution and death in the assurance of the presence of Christ. Job had nothing but his trust in the God who had blessed him. He never doubted the source of his former prosperity. His was a great faith because it had so little to support it.

Dr. Adam Burnett tells this story of the Camerons from Scottish history. The son, Richard, called the Lion of the Covenant, was caught by the king's troops and killed for his faith. His father, Allen Cameron, lay dying in Edinburgh jail. They brought the son's head and hands and threw them on the floor of the cell. It seems too awful to believe, even in the remembrance of Nazi brutalities. They cried, "Do you know whose these are?" "Yes, my son's, my dear son's," he answered. "Good is the Lord, who could never wrong me or mine, and hath made goodness and mercy to follow me all the days of my life." It was unconquerable faith like this that sustained the patient Job. "Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him."

Questions:

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"Why do the innocent suffer?" Is that a vital question today? What answer do you find in the Bible?

"The fault of the Hebrews was their association of divine love with material prosperity." Is this a common fault of Christians too? Are we wage-workers in the Master's vineyard, with our minds on the rewards? Discuss.

• Sunday, November 14th

PROPHECY IN THE BIBLE AMOS 5:21-24; 7:10-15; MICAH 4:1-4; 6:8

VERY ancient nation could boast of its seers. They were consulted by kings before every venture to predict its outcome. They were diviners with their methods reduced to an art. Their prophecies were built on ability to make a good guess on the basis of their wisdom and experience. The prophets of the Bible were different. They depended upon direct revelation from God. Indeed they were specially called to their office from various walks of life. They are designated as messengers of Jehovah, servants of God and men of God. They were a medium through which God sent His counsel and warnings to the leaders of His people.

"It shall come to pass" was a favorite introduction of their prophecies. They did predict the future and many of their prophecies not only had an immediate meaning but also looked far ahead through the centuries to the Messiah and His kingdom. Because they were entirely dependent on revelation from God, they frequently had to announce to kings that they were heading for calamity. This made them exceedingly unpopular. So the prophets suffered. Jesus could rightly charge the Jewish leaders of His day with being descendants of those who "killed the prophets."

The Hebrew prophets were different also from the wise men and diviners of the heathen, in the extent of their mission. They not only foretold coming events but they were preachers of righteousness. They rescued religion from (Continued on page 106)

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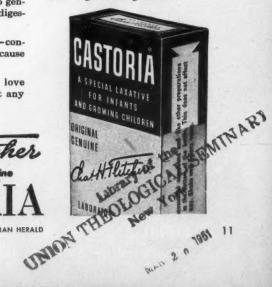
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NOVEMBER 1948

Thou knowest, Lord, how prone I am to stray
Along the beckoning paths which lead away
From that straight course I fully meant to go.
You see my failings, Lord. How well You know
My inner weaknesses, the fickle heart
Which yearns for Thee yet fails to do its part.
So filled with broken promises the day,
Mistakes renewed, forgetting oft to pray.
Thinking of self, failing to say and do
The selfless things I should, the kind, the true.

So once again I come to seek Thy aid:
In future days, however far I've strayed,
Do not forsake me, Lord, nor let me go
Too far to feel the upward pull, to know
An inner urgency for things above,
The great outreaching of Thy boundless love.

- DOROTHY SAFFORD

FIFTH ANNUAL WORLDWIDE BIBLE READING PROGRAM Sponsored by American Bible Society – Thanksgiving to Christmas



· AT HOME

READY: We shall speak elsewhere of the Berlin crisis, but one angle must be mentioned here. The effects of the cold war in Germany on those of us at home are easy to trace. We go about our business, hoping against hope. But we're ready, or getting ready. The boys are registering for the draft. The air corps, with the greatest publicity campaign in its history, is growing, and fast; it is being supplemented by a rejuvenated British air corps. We don't want war any more now than we did before Pearl Harbor, but Pearl Harbor taught us something.

Confidential nation-wide polls by the State Department reveal an interesting trend in the American mind. They reveal that 82% of the American people are ready to face the bloodshed of another war rather than give in to further Soviet bullying. And 60% would break the Berlin blockade by force.

Moscow papers, please copy!

HEALTH: Some few irate letters reached us this month in reply to our item on the failure of our government to provide old-age and health safeguards, as they are provided in Sweden and England. One writer writes: "You're crazy. The average American family and even the average individual have the best health and old-age protection on the face of the earth."

That may be right—if you are thinking only of those who can afford to pay for such protection. But the truth is that we are not adequately protected, either as a people or as individuals. Some 1,400,000 persons die in this country every year; of these, it is estimated that 325,000 could be saved. We lose 4,300,000 man-years of work a year through bad health—or \$27,000,000,000 in national income. Only 20% of our people can afford the medical attention they need. So much for health.

Insofar as old age is concerned, statistics are unavailable and unreliable. Most aged Americans, if they are in need, are too proud to complain or ask for help. But we still have almshouses—too many of them—in place of Sweden's old-age hostels. And with the cost of living what it is, and most of us completely unable to lay away enough for the rainy day, we'll be needing some-

thing more than almshouses ten years from now. We just don't seem to care.

MOVIES: Hollywood is badly frightened. People aren't going to the movies as they did; box-offices are pessimistic. They don't go because they're fed up on fifth-rate pictures. And because they're more and more disgusted with the monkeyshines of Hollywood personalities.

To add more coals of fire to the boxoffice debacle, there's Robert Mitchum,
pinched last month on a marijuana
charge. He was arrested the night before he was to have appeared as a principal speaker at a meeting discussing
juvenile delinquency! We're not condemning Mitchum; we're only wondering why Hollywood is trying so hard
to make a case for him on the old "lethim-who-is-without-sin-throw-the-firststone" angle.

Why doesn't Hollywood admit it has some undesirables in its house—and clean house? Why defend them, just because they're movie actors or actresses? At Mitchum's arrest Hollywood screamed (through a big-time lawyer): "We'll prove it's all a mistake." Hardly had they screamed it when Mitchum let the cat out of the bag with: "Sure, I've been using the stuff since I was a kid!"

Going sob-sister over stars who talk like this doesn't fool anybody, not even those who check in at the box-office.

COURIER'S CUES: If Dewey wins, it will be John Foster Dulles for Secretary of State. . . . Justice Department will drive hard on lobbyists this winter. . . . Strategists and mere guessers are saying Wallace will poll less than 1,500,000 votes. . . . Federal employment, far from decreasing, is increasing by 15,000 a month. . . . Passamaquoddy, once a Republican argument against the New Deal, is now an argument for the Republicans, in the hands of Mrs. Margaret Chase Smith, who wants \$100,-900,000 from the government to complete it!. . . . Vice Admiral Bradford, USN, doubts that we will ever build another big battleship. . . . De Gaulle will rule France before Dec. 31. . . . Watch for active reserve training for Army-Navy next year. . . . Biggest advertising campaign ever by U.S. Army is just ahead. . . . William Green will

be re-elected president of AFL.... John L. Lewis is so ill he may soon retire.... And Dewey will win, easily.

· ABROAD ·

PALESTINE: So they shot Count Bernadotte. They shot at him before they got him. And when they murdered this man from the U. N., the Stern gang extremists did as much harm to their cause in Israel as they would have done by dropping an atomic bomb on New York.

For now every nation in the U. N. is wondering about the feasibility of sending another representative to fight for peace in the midst of war. Another will go (indeed, he is already appointed); the U. N. will not give up with one funeral. But what can he do?

Let's remember that "the Jews" did not do this thing; an irresponsible, lawless, barbarously ignorant Stern gang did it. And when they did it, they may have cut off from their cause the sympathy and resources of millions of friends around the world.

Completely innocent, the leaders of Israel and their cause have suffered a tragic blow.

BERLIN: General Lucius Clay, top U. S. military man in Berlin, sees "no war around the corner." He is the calmest man in Europe. He looks forward to a long siege in Berlin, to a drastic increase in air-power on the side of the Western nations, to increased difficulties with the Communists. But no war.

What goes on here, under Clay's eye, is not just a struggle for Berlin. If Russia could get Berlin, she would use her victory to tell the world that the U. S.-British-French star had set, and that the Russians are taking over. But the Russians haven't taken yet what they really want: not Berlin, but the Ruhr. They need coal and coke, iron and steel. They want to disrupt and destroy the European Recovery Program in all Europe and to manage Europe's economy for the Soviet's benefit. That's their target; all else is smoke-screen.

To accomplish that, they will lie, cheat, steal, murder, bully, brag and bluff. And they will not get what they want, for several reasons. The United States will not give it to them; we will not hand the world over to Mr. Stalin. The nations of Europe will not knuckle down; they know too well how sad life is under the red flag. And even Russians know, or should know, that bullies bluster to hide their fears. There's something rotten in Russia—and daily growing worse. Surer than shooting, social and economic gangrene will set in.

Then what?

WAR: Perhaps the news editor of a religious magazine should plead for understanding, even for appeasement, and never for war. Perhaps we should be

trying harder to "understand" Russia. But the painful truth is that we already understand enough about Russia to know that if she does not want war, she certainly doesn't want peace.

Russia wants chaos. To get it, she sets her best men to the daily task of thinking up lies and villification, false accusations, riots, insults, violence and misunderstanding. No peace-lover ever spent his time at that! There is even stronger evidence that all this is but the first skirmish of a hot war. Says David J. Dallin in The New Leaders: "The Kremlin no longer questions the conclusion that war is bound to come-if not tomorrow, then the day after." What Moscow would like to do is to provoke us into firing the first shot.

Stalin certainly wants the cold war: it will go on until the Western powers take the offensive and force a real showdown and put Stalin and the Kremlin in the position of either fighting or backing down. We will have to do that

eventually. Why not now?

Do we lack the stomach for it? Or do we just lack faith in democracy and in the spirit of free peoples? Up to now, we have done nothing but duck and dodge and appease. We did that with Hitler!

FRANCE: Trembling on the edge of chaos, France will put de Gaulle in power. He is the only strong man in the country, and he waits with utter confidence in the wings of the political

The impasse is economic more than political. What France must do is to stave off threatened strikes with a higher wage scale for her working classeswith money she hasn't got. It's like trying to pull a rabbit out of the hat with no rabbit. Schuman tried twice, with two cabinets, to make prices and wages balance in the scales, and twice he failed, and his two cabinets fell. He had next to no support in the Assembly; that is Red-dominated, and the Reds do not want a solution. They want trouble.

So-only de Gaulle is left. What will happen will be that France will turn to him at last in desperation; he will establish himself as a Fascist dictator, and France will do as he says. It is either that or turn the country over to Stalin. And France thinks more of de

Gaulle than of Uncle Joe.

It may take months. But it will come.

INDIA: It's all over in India. The state of Hyderabad, ruled by a Moslem Nizam and populated by 16,000,000 (805 of whom are Hindus), has surrendered to invading Indian armies. The Indians marched to force Hyderabad into the Indian union.

Maybe it was a tempest in a teapot; maybe the teapot hasn't started boiling yet. Some Moslems, in reprisal, are threatening country-wide violence. We think that will not happen, for other



Star miler Glenn Cunningham, standing left, on tour. See item "Tornado."

powerful Moslem leaders seem to feel that the Nizam of Hyderabad was shortsighted, if not a fool, and that the Indians and not the Moslems involved in the short-lived war deserved cooperation and support. The Nehru (Indian) government has the support of the vast majority.

But that is not what interests us in this affair. What fascinates us is the action of the Indians. How quickly and how far they have moved from the pacifism of their Gandhi! Has India forsaken pacifism and the spinningwheel for machines and war? The Indian armies had armored cars; they had bombers and rocket-firing fighter planes! That's a long, long cry from Mahatma Gandhi, man of peace.

Is this a new era in India?

QUEEN: Holland, The Netherlands, has a new queen. In what one reporter called "the greatest show in post-war Europe," aging Queen Wilhelmina signed her abdication, waved a cheerleader's arm to the crowds of Amsterdam and cried "Long live the queen!" At her side, embarrassed and nervous, but earnest and purposeful, stood the queen she was giving them: the former Princess Juliana.

Juliana will be a good queen in a land that has suffered much. She comes to power as Holland may lose Indonesiaand that would be quite a loss. She must, if she can, engineer a partnership between this Indonesia and mother Holland; it will take some doing! And she must, whether she likes it nor not, work for the revival of the hated enemy, Germany. For without a revived Deutschland, Holland will be up against it on the economic front.

Good luck and God bless you, Queen Juliana. Your happiest days are over.

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TORNADO: A new brand of tornado has just struck Kansas: a "Temperance Tornado" made up of a caravan of cars from twelve Southwest counties, 100 young people and their chaperons, a sixty-piece band, various floats and a caboose for "laggers behind." They struck 100 Kansas towns and cities on a 12-day, 1500-mile tour, combating a proposed repeal of the state's prohibition law. Prominent among them was Glen Cunningham, world-famous miler,

Nothing serious developed-except the usual Wet lies and sneers. The efforts of Wet papers and magazines all over the country to discount the Tornado were almost pitiful; magazines published in New York and Chicago quit yelling that Kansas had no right to make laws for New York and Chicagoand did their best to influence the making of law in Kansas! Kansas Wets sneered that the Drys had their law and the Wets had "plenty" of (bootleg) liquor; if they have their liquor, what are they yelling about?

What the Wets hated were these facts: Kansas has been dry for sixtyeight years; a dry governor was elected in 1946 over dripping wet Harry H. Woodring; returned veterans are not at all sure they want to repeal prohibition. And the kids and the grown-ups in the Tornado were not at all discouraged by Wet sneers and brickbats. They were hard to handle; they kept at it and did their job. They were a happy, fighting crowd. We predict: they and the Drys will win in the voting on November 2: the state will stay dry.

There are vital campaigns being waged in other states, California notably. To our readers, in whatever

state but especially where this issue is hot, we make this plea: Get out the church and temperance vote, and get it out early!

VETS: "Nothing is too good for our veterans." That's heard often in these days, from lobbyists and from sincere people as well. By way of two items we'd like to report on one thing the vets are getting that they may not want.

Item 1: Mr. Kenneth Laird, speaking to the Wholesale Beer Association of Ohio, said a little while ago: "Ten million GI's have learned to know and like beer much earlier than they could have as civilians. For five years there has been no need to sell. Uncle Sam has been your sales manager, the best you ever had."

Item 2: Dr. Paul R. Hawley, Veterans Administration Medical Director, is quoted in the Chicago Daily News of November 21, 1947, as saying that V.A. hospitals are being seriously burdened with alcoholics and that the problem is "increasing by leaps and bounds." Average cost to the Veteran's Administration of maintaining one such patient is \$8.70 per day.

How much of the Federal money taken in from taxes on liquor goes to help this department of vets, so cleverly sold on drinking by good old Uncle

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RIGHTS: On a recent Thursday night, we went to a party. It was quite a party, with many of the "best people" invited. We discussed politics and religion and our children, and some other children. And at ten o'clock the host got out the cocktail mixer and everybody but us got more than he wanted, and when we didn't drink at all we found ourselves about as welcome as Hitler in a synagogue. Not that the host was rude; he did his best to make us feel we belonged. But we didn't. We were just different. So we went home.

They had a perfect right to drink. But they didn't seem to realize that we had a perfect right not to drink, without being considered something out of the Plymouth Rock era. Who did that to them? Who "sold" them? Twenty years ago there wouldn't even have been a cocktail shaker in that house, let alone a crowd of prize drunks drawn from "the best homes in town." How did they come to be such people of distinction?

CHURCH NEWS

CONFERENCES: Christendom is still talking about Amsterdam, a full report of which appears elsewhere in this issue. This vital meeting of the World Council of Churches did and said a lot of things that got under our collective Christian

Something else gets under our skin in this connection and that is the other SENSATIONAL NEW **EVEREADY**



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DR. JOHN GAYNER BANKS, Editor 2243 Front St. San Diego 1, Calif.



conferences inspired by other American groups which met at the same time here and elsewhere in Europe. It seems that some other American churchmen, out of sympathy with the "liberals" at Amsterdam, hastily whipped up another series 'world" gatherings, just to show the folks in Europe that there is still bitter competition among the American children of God. They had a perfect right to organize those competitive and distracting conferences-but why did they have to meet at the same time? It's bad enough to have our squabbles in the Church, without hanging out our dirty linen all over Europe.

songs: People in the U.S.A. seem to like the religious songs best, according to a report of the music industry. A survey taken by the American Music Conference discloses that church music and hymns got first preference, popular dance music second, old favorites and folk tunes third, semi-classical operettas fourth, cowboy and hill-billy music fifth, and boogie woogie a bad *last*. A sample cross-section of five thousand persons voted, from coast to coast.

We wouldn't have thought it, for we have two teen-agers in our house, and three radios, and there have been times when adults around the house have sworn to kill the first hill-billy singer and boogie-woogie artist on sight. But kids grow up: we hear them humming hymns, occasionally. The good songs last; the others die—if not soon enough!

And the church, says this survey, is the foremost factor in stimulating music in the U. S.A.! Thank heaven for that.

union: E. Stanley Jones has been out on the highway again, preaching a United Church of America. He has just visited twenty-five cities from New York to California.

Dr. Jones is one of the great religious figures of our times, a great preacher with a great idea. He wants to "rouse the desire for union on the part of the people in the pews." That's smart: that is the only way by which we'll ever get church union. We will certainly bring down coals of fire from the preachers on our heads when we say this, but here goes: by and large, the leading advocates of church union in this country have given up trying to get it through the preachers. Preachers seem hesitant; they guard creeds and rituals and forms of church government, and the less reverent claim they also guard their jobs. That last one is too much; no preacher worth his salt or his pulpit is as selfish as that. But the parsons are an integral cog in the denominational machine; the heat is on them constantly to make the sectarian wheels move and the gears mesh. Too much heat is on them in that direction, to too small an end. The important thing here is not the denomination, but the Kingdom. And the Kingdom certainly isn't being

served by the everlasting sniping of 250 competitive "regiments" or denominations in the (Protestant) army of the Lord.

Maybe it's time for the laymen to take over!

schools: Los Angeles has seventeen new schools—parochial schools—this winter. Thirteen of them are Roman Catholic, three are Baptist, one is Lutheran.

It's a straw in the wind. Now that the Supreme Court has chased religion out of the public schools (?) the churches will either set up parochial schools or go back to leaning on the Sunday school—a weak crutch, at best.

At this point, the churches and the whole country seem gone with the wind, so far as any comprehensive plan for the religious instruction of youth is concerned. Never before in the history of this Christian commonwealth have we had so many youngsters standing around without benefit of religious instructionand so many preachers and laymen standing around wondering what to do with them! We have the best secular (maybe too secular) schools in the world-but our religious education is too much like the bananas in the song: Yes, we have no religious educationor not much, anyway.

It is a fatal moment; unless the Church acts and acts fast, it will cope tomorrow with a generation that has grown up in a state of hard-boiled, uninformed boredom, ignorance and cynicism.

a dither over their new system of electing bishops. Seems that these bishops were once elected by the General Conference, an ali-inclusive body of the Church which met once every four years. Only a man well-known and well-proved could hope to be made bishop by such a large gathering. Since the merging of Methodists North and South, however, a system of smaller jurisdictional conferences elects these top men. And politics are running riot in these elections, and the Church is getting worried over some of its "baby" bishops.

Small delegations are throwing their wrenches in the wheels at these jurisdictional conferences; a group of fifty delegates can hold out votes from really worthy, big men, and slowly push their own favorite son to the top, even when the favorite son is an unknown in the Church at large!

This is bad. In our own day we have known Methodist bishops like McConnell and Oxnam, who stand as great leaders in world Protestantism. To drop the standard now is to hobble a great Church; politics, particularly such politics, have no place in the Church Militant! No wonder many Methodists are crying, "Let's go back to General Conference to elect our bishops!"

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NOVEMBER 1948

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17

Editorially Speaking ...

• COMMUNISM AND CAPITALISM—There is a Difference

CHRISTIAN HERALD supports the World Council of Churches and the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America. We do not support the Amsterdam resolution on "Communism and Capitalism" and we reject the fallacy the resolution voices.

My article, "The Wonder and Glory of Amsterdam" in this issue, preceded by the Clarence Hall article, "The Churches' Big Chance" in the September issue, and to be followed by a factual summary from the pen of the Associate General Secretary of the World Council, Henry Smith Leiper, declare again our faith in these Protestant agencies of dynamic unity, but this editorial

deals with that Amsterdam resolution.

However the point may be argued, the charge that the report of the Council Section on "The Church and the Disorder of Society" condemns equally "Communism" and "Capitalism" will be generally supported. The resolution stated, "The Christian Church should reject the ideologies of both Communism and Capitalism and should seek to draw away from the false assumption that these are the only alternatives. Each has made promises that it could not redeem." That is equal condemnation, and, granting truth in those sentences, the

truth is assuredly less and worse than a half truth. "Equal condemnation" is further emphasized by the refusal to accept the amendment proposed by the Episcopal member, Charles P. Taft, who is also president of the Federal Council of Churches, which sought to substitute for "Capitalism" the phrase "the wholly self-regulating laissez-faire (capitalistic system)." Only the word "laissez-faire" was accepted.

We recognize the circumstances under which the resolution was written. French delegates wanted Capitalism denounced as slavery—in spite of the fact that their freedom to continue their multiple elections is due to this American Capitalism. There were those in the section who insisted that Western democracy as based upon Capitalism is as dead as Dr. Hromadka had declared it to be. Also, delegates from India and China supported the friendlier view of Communism.

The uniqueness of the Council and its organizational genius were never more clearly demonstrated than when this resolution was received but not adopted, and referred then to the constituent bodies for such action as they may choose to take. It is therefore with the resolution as it comes now to the (Continued on page 115)

• GOVERNOR DEWEY'S MESSAGE

WHAT Governor Thomas E. Dewey, Republican candidate for the Presidency, has to say in this issue of Christian Herald is forthright and timely. His words go to the heart of things. Christian Herald is happy to be the journal securing this exclusive and significant interview.

The Governor sounds again the note that highlighted his acceptance speech in Philadelphia. He reemphasizes spiritual values. "With enough of almost everything," he says, "what we have too little of is the personal practice of an action-producing belief in Almighty God and of the knowledge of the availability to us of His guidance. Our forebears, who had too little of many things, had more of that."

Definitely it is true that not only individuals but groups and organizations within the state have tried "to give irreligion the garb of respectability," and have

made a vogue of unbelief.

Governor Dewey does not believe that physically we should return to an earlier period. Mahatma Gandhi made that mistake when he called for an embargo on modern machinery and asked India to go back to the spinning wheel. But the Governor does call for a revival of the spiritual convictions and religious habits that had so large a part in making America sufficient for her past, and that would, we believe, assure to her future security and greatness. The Republican candidate believes in a working faith, and he also believes that economic and political measures are indecisive, if

not a snare and delusion, unless they are the external expression of inner deep convictions rooted in the individual's sincere desire both to know God's will and to help bring it to pass in the world. Governor Dewey's life and record justify us in accepting his statement at its full face value.

In this same issue with a statement of Episcopalian Dewey, we had hoped to have a companion statement from Baptist Truman. Identical letters of invitation were written to each candidate. The President's sec-

retary replied:

"May Î explain to you the White House policy with regard to requests of this character. The President, like his predecessor, has made a practice of not writing an article such as you request exclusively for any publication. As he has adhered strictly to this policy, I feel sure you will recognize the difficulty of making an exception."

We believe that President Truman would have had a worthy message for the present occasion and regret

that we did not receive it for publication.

Laniel a. Poling &



PHOTOS FROM "THE LIGHTHOUSE," NEW YOR With sensitive fingers, three blind girls are "reading."

HE little French boy, Louis, with the brown, sparkling eyes was playing in his father's pungent-smelling workshop. Suddenly he clutched in his small fist two blue-steeled awls, and triumphantly ran off with them. Then he stumbled. There was a scream. His father, the saddlemaker of the village of Coupvray, hurried to him, but it was of no use. That day three-year-old Louis lost the sight of his left eye, and soon the injury affected the optical nerves of the other eye. Little Louis was totally blinded for life.

His father, in comfortable circumstances as riches were measured in 1812, took him to Paris where he expended the larger part of his savings on physicians. But even the court doctors held out no hope. "When the nerves are mutilated, we can do nothing," they said.

The villagers were kind. "There comes petit Louis," they would say when they heard the tapping of his little cane. For him, they scratched out grooves on the road so that he could follow a straight path.

ILLUSTRATOR:

His father, a giant of a man, never got over his remorse for the accident, and could not do enough for the little boy. In later years he wrote his son: "It was no accident as such, but my carelessness that blighted your life. I should have kept closer watch over you." Louis never forgot how the big man sobbed while whittling out a cane for him. There were none that small to be bought.

Tap, tap his stick made on the road. So many taps to the big tree where he would sit and rest. So many more to the pond where he could hear the cries of his friends disporting themselves. That many more tappings to the left to his aunt's house. His eyes were at his cane's end, but as he used to explain later, it was the tapping that stayed with him. When finally, after years of torment and struggle, he succeeded in developing his system of reading and writing, Louis Braille called it "frozen taps."

When he was ten years old, Louis was enrolled in the school for the blind at Paris, the Institution Nationale des Jeunes Aveugles. It wasn't much of

By J. ALVIN KUGELMASS
ILLUSTRATOR: LUMEN WINTER

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a school, for before 1784, when it was established, no one had given much thought to education for the blind. Under Valentin Hauy, its founder—an unsung pioneer in the teaching of the sightless—Louis learned the alphabet by the "twig" method. From little sticks Hauy had fashioned the twenty-six letters, and along these sticks he guided the fingers of his pupils.

After Louis learned the alphabet he was graduated to the few books created painstakingly by Hauy from letters cut out of cloth and pasted on pages. Each letter was about three inches high and two inches wide. A long word would spread across two to three lines. Thus, only short selections from stories, essays or poems were available to the young, blind pupil. A fable about Reynaud the Fox, for example, filled seven thick books, each weighing about eight pounds.

To little Louis' agile mind, the process of instruction was clumsy, too slow, and clearly limited. Later, when Louis was about 14, another pupil noted the ridges on a printed card into which the type had bitten strongly. "Master, master," he came crying to Hauy. The master quickly saw the point and began to turn out embossed letters from movable type set by his pupils. But the letters had to be at least an inch high; a "book" was still a tremendous affair and tantalizingly tedious to read.

It was heart-breaking to the growing boy with the eager intellect. His thought processes were left dangling until his finger caught up with a word, and so "like an idiot," as he told his father, he would gather a phrase, then a sentence. A term's course that way might take as long as five years.

Every few months, Louis would return to his home in Coupvray. As he grew, so grew his impatience with his "ignorance." "Father," he would tell the big man, "the blind are the loneliest people in the world. Here, I can distinguish one bird from another by its call; I can know the entrance to the house by the lintel. But am I never to know what lies beyond the confines of my hearing and my feeling with my hands? Only books can free the blind.



Blind operator Charlotte Ruhr has operated the above press for twelve years, printing publications in Braille.

But there are no books for the blind that are worth anything"

One day a great thought came to him. He would devise a code for every word in the dictionary-a code that would tell in one symbol an entire phrase, perhaps even a sentence. Thus, the blind could not only have entire books economically abbreviated, but they could perhaps even write. He begged his father for some bits of leather and all through the summer he snipped and cut until his hands were raw. Almost daily he would abandon his quest as hopeless. Then a new idea would strike him, and he would start afresh. He worked with codes based on triangles, squares and circles, each bearing variations representing different letters. On a circle, for example, he marked out twenty-six positions, one for each letter of the alphabet. But he could work up no easy way for the sightless to determine just what letter was indicated. Nothing evolved that was not too complex, expensive or cumbersome.

IN HIS early twenties, Braille traveled great distances to universities and begged professors of history to search for a "forgotten" key for the blind. He wrote to many foreign countries and met with an even greater indifference than he encountered in France. Except for England, where a school for the blind had been established in 1791, there was little or no interest among pedagogues.

Meanwhile Louis, now a teacher at the Institution Nationale des Jeunes Aveugles, had learned of a system of "night writing" developed for military use by a French Army captain named Barbier. A message, he was told, could be "written" in dots and dashes to another post; there it could be read by touch without the need for striking a light. He was idling in a Paris café with a friend one evening when the significance of this development suddenly came home to him. He leaped to his feet and began to shout and thump the table.

The proprietor came running. "Monsieur Braille, Monsieur Braille, pauvre aveugle, I beg of you, you are disturbing my guests."

Monsieur Braille threw back his head and laughed, then sat down and said humbly: "Forgive me, *messieurs*, I am distraught." And from the blind eyes came hot tears.

traught." And from the blind eyes came hot tears.
"My dear friend," said Braille, "My dear, dear friend. I have solved the impenetrable problem of the blind. The age-long, the deathlike trance of the blind. I am grateful. Mine are tears of happiness. I beg of you to forgive me."

He sat quietly for a moment. "I can now give windows to the blind," he said simply. "Why could I not see it before?"

The following day, accompanied by a blind friend, he sought out Captain Charles Barbier, who luckily was in Paris.

"I come to you on an errand of transcendental mercy," he told the captain. "Will you not explain to me, and to my friend who is also blind, your method of 'night writing' if it is not an army secret? The blind for all time to come will honor you."

The captain gazed with gentleness at the two men, their faces turned to him beseechingly.

"It is no secret," he said. "How can it be of service to you?"

Braille explained the tedious and awkward teaching methods for the blind. He told how they were shut away from the light that books would give them, from the friendliness that reading would shed in a darkened world.

The captain smote his thigh. "But of course. I had never thought of it." Then he explained how, with an awl, he punched impressions into thick paper so that when it was reversed small protuberances could be felt. A simple army code had been set up: one dot might mean "advance," two dots might mean "retreat," and so on. "As simple as that. I don't quite see how it will help you, (Continued on page 100)

Invited by Christian Herald to speak out on America's need for a revitalized faith, the Republican Presidential candidate issues, in this exclusive article, a ringing challenge to "a revival of the spiritual convictions and religious habits our forebears practiced"



ur Most Important Shortage

By THOMAS E. DEWEY

ACED with the confusions, uncertainties and threats of the present world, we are sometimes tempted to agree with those who say that the reason for our great difficulties today is that our problems are so different from those which faced other generations of our people. That is a too-easy rationalization. It is defeatist. If we seem to have greater difficulty solving our problems, it is not because the problems are essentially more difficult. It is because, for solving them, we are short of something which our forebears had.

Physically and intellectually, we are equipped, as no other generation, with the means to make a reality of what we hope for. Our shortage is elsewhere. With enough of almost everything, what we have too little of is the personal practice of an action-producing belief in Almighty God and in a knowledge of the availability, to us, of His guidance. Our forebears, who had too little of many things, had more of that. That, and not the size and complexity of our problems, is the chief difference between them and us.

Out of self-pride in what, materially, we have been able to do, too many people have been trying hard to do without God. Too many people have been trying to give irreligion the garb of respectability. They have made a vogue of unbelief. They have acted as though we could acquire education without acquiring a knowledge of religion, and wisdom without the experience and practice of it.

We have not found peace within ourselves. We have not been able to establish it among the nations. With all our knowledge, we urgently need to gain sufficient understanding to recognize that there is an inescapable, cause-and-effect relationship between these mounting failures and our diminished faith. Unless we are willing to surrender our dreams and prepare for a new Dark Age, we must soon acknowledge that, good as we may think we are, we are not good enough to get along without the God our forebears found indispensable and, in keeping with that fact, to reorder our lives.

It has been part of our Christian heritage to regard the

family as the cornerstone of our society. We have rightly believed that our nation's well-being-its well-being in body, mind and spirit-was dependent upon and directly transmitted from the integrity, the sanctity and the spiritual resources of America's homes.

Today a threat hangs over the American family-a threat that is dishearteningly illustrated in the enormous increase in the number of broken homes. It seems to be the fashion to say that this threat is a production of an age whose inventions have multiplied our distractions and diversions and made us dependent, not on each other, but on the machine.

That analysis may be partly true. But it is far from the whole truth. The most serious problems of the American family are not outside it and ourselves. They are within it and within ourselves. It was not, chiefly, the simplicities of that age which made the American home what it was a century ago. It was rather because, simple or complex, the life that went on inside that home had religion at the heart of it. The Bible was a familiar book, regularly read. Grace was said at meals. Prayer and worship were an acknowledged necessity.

We cannot, physically, return to that earlier period-nor would we want to. But I am deeply convinced that a revival among us of the same spiritual convictions and religious habits would do for us, and our families, what they did for our forebears. With the American home restored to that foundation, even the greater difficulties that lie ahead in this atomic age could not prevail against it.

In every area of present-day concern, I believe that such a working faith could make a challenge of our problems and turn our difficulties into opportunity. Economic and political measures, of themselves, are likely to be indecisive palliatives. They must be more than that. They will be more than that when, as in the days of America's founding, they become the external expression of inner convictions which have their roots in our desire to know God's will and our efforts to see it done in the world.



HILE Hebe hitched the team to the wagon, Elvy made a list of the things she wanted from town. Not that she expected Hebe to even look at it. He would get what few necessities he thought he could and they'd manage. But it was fun making the list and pretending he would bring it all back with him. At that, she hesitated before writing down sugar.

Sugar, Hebe maintained, was one of the things they could do without. Wasn't there always plenty of sorghum molasses? Yet there were times when Elvy longed for the luxury of pie or cake or the sugar cookies three-year-old Billy would adore. So she wrote the word down, just to see how it looked on

paper. Wonderful! Smiling, her tongue in her cheek, Elvy added other words under it. "A chunk of the world." Then, feeling foolish, she hurriedly tried to erase them. If Hebe saw that, he'd think she was crazy. Hebe couldn't understand how "out of the world" a woman felt living on a West Texas homestead claim, seeing people only at rare intervals, and with her monotonous days blending together like the endless brown prairies that stretched off toward a world she could only wonder about. Such is the exciting world that Hebe would see today in Santa Anna.

Hebe came in for the morning Scripture reading before leaving for the long trip to town. Leaving the useless list unfinished, Elvy took up her small son to keep him quiet. She always liked hearing Hebe read the Scriptures aloud. His deep voice was impressive, and, even with Billy trying to make his corn cob doll climb up Elvy's long braids, she listened attentively. But she was puzzled a little at what she heard. "For

your Heavenly Father knoweth what things ye have need of before ye ask," Hebe's resonant voice intoned.

Impulsively Elvy asked, "Hebe, if that's true, why do we have to pray? If God knows what we need, He knows the corn has to have rain and yet you pray about it every day and worry so."

The air was heavy with Hebe's disapproval before he answered. "Having doubts like that is sinful, Elvy. We're told to ask for what we need, and I do."

Like making a list, Elvy thought. A list you don't expect anyone to see. That must be the way Hebe prayed, the way he kept right on worrying after he'd read his list to God. She smiled at the thought that it must sound a little funny in Heaven, hearing Hebe read his list of needs as though God didn't already know.

When Hebe drove away, Elvy stood in the door until the wagon was just a moving speck against the horizon. Her mind was full of rebellious doubts, scampering around like the busy little prairie dogs Hebe hated so. If God knew about people's needs, didn't He know how badly she wanted to go to town with Hebe today? And how tired a woman got of never doing anything different, or seeing people, or having new, exciting foods to eat? Not even sugar for a pound cake, or an annual trip into town for supplies. Of course, the two day's trip in the blistering heat would have been hard on Billy. And there was Hebe's corn to guard against stray cattle.

The corn, of course, was important. Acres and acres of it, stretching away as far as Elvy could see, like a rippling sea of bright green. It was the pride of Hebe's heart. Although only June, the stalks already stood nearly five feet

high, the plumed tips about even with Elvy's head. And it meant even more than food for themselves and the stock during the winter to come. The corn was to make Texas history, for it would prove a point Hebe had argued ever since taking up the homestead—that the plains were good for more than just cattle grazing, that Texas would some day be feeding the world.

Elvy understood all that, but the rebellious doubts were still stirring in her as she turned to begin her long, monotonous day.

AROUND mid-morning a startled note in the bark of the prairie dogs brought Elvy back to the door. A man living six miles down the creek sat his horse in front of the house, a sack of flour riding behind him.

"Mornin', Miz Anderson. Hebe

"Howdy, Mister Staton. No, Hebe left carly to go to Santa Anna for grub."

"I just come from town but missed him. Quite a lot of excitement in Santa Anna. Had a train robb'ry yesterday. Feller with a handkerchief over his face stopped the Santa Fe, locked up the train crew in the express car and made off with five thousand dollars. Half the county's out hunting him now."

A brief interest stirred Elvy. "You think they'll catch him?"

"'Most sure to. The engineer says the robber stood right under a leaky valve when he boarded the engine and that there'd ought to be grease spots high up between his shoulder blades. Feller won't know that, of course, but the sheriff'll spot him that way. Well,



touched Elvy lightly, as news from another world. She had forgotten it by the time she and Billy had finished their noon snack. When a loud "Hello!" sent her running back to the door, her only thought was that this was a memorable day-two callers within a few hours.

A stranger had ridden up this time. Hardly more than a boy, she thought. Or was he? After seeing his eyes-hard and too-bright-she wasn't sure.

"Yore man at home?" the young-old man asked.

today.'

Compassion rose in Elvy as she saw the gaunt hunger lines in his face, the evidences of fatigue. She nodded, said hospitably: "Light and 'tend your horse while I fix something."

But something like panic was rising in her as she thought of the bare shelves in her kitchen. What in the world could she give the man to eat? Not just plain corn-meal mush, such as she and Billy had eaten. A man couldn't ride in the hot Texas sun with just corn-

meal mush on his stomach. They'd eaten the last of the side meat for breakfast, and it was between seasons for potatoes. There were onions, but corn pone and onions was no sort of meal to offer company. Unless she could find an egg to go with it, and that was doubtful since the few hens she had were all molting.

A quick search of the barnyard killed all hope of an egg. As Elvy hurried (Continued on page 96)

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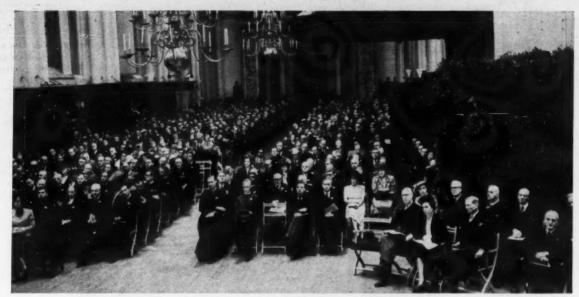
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A view of the First Assembly of the World Council of Churches in Amsterdam's Nieuwe Kerk, August 22.

The Glory and Wonder of Amsterdam

"A LIVING DEMONSTRATION OF CHRISTIAN UNITY IN JESUS CHRIST"

By DANIEL A. POLING

HE glory and wonder of Amsterdam is the fact that it was, and that now the World Council of Churches is. Beyond all difficulties-and there were many, some of them serious-and in spite of disagreements and with utmost freedom to express differences and disagreements, there was achieved at Amsterdam a striking unity in worship, in fellowship, and in service. This unity is not uniformity; it is something greater. It transcends disagreements and differences. It is dynamic and it has prophetic power, for in it is the hope of Christ's prophecy fulfilled: "That they may be one, as We are.'

Amsterdam recorded two notable absentees, the Russian Orthodox Church and the Roman Catholic Church. Following the Communist line, the Russian Church charged the World Council with being political. But it did leave the door open, and there the door stands. In June, the Vatican seemed ready to send "unofficial observers," but later withdrew entirely. However, one of the most impressive incidents of the entire assembly was of Roman Catholic origin. John Cardinal de Young, Archbishop of Utrecht, ordered every Roman parish in the Netherlands to conduct a special mass for the Council on Sunday, August

Realistically, the Right Reverend Henry Knox Sherrill, presiding Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church, states the case for the Council's continuing program: "It is a going concern, with a constitution, by-laws and resolutions . . . But, more important than what was said or promised at Amsterdam, is the future of this organization."

From the inspiring opening session in the Nieuwe Kirk to the final plenary

session, it became increasingly clear that a super Church was not contemplated, and that the World Council, after ten years during which it was in process of organization, would be constituted officially as just what its name implies—a World Council of Churches.

Here is the genius of the organization. Creedal and non-creedal churches,



Queen Juliana (then Princess) and Prince Bernhard attend first session.

state and free, Eastern and Western, the ancient and the young, can, did and will counsel together and be a council.

ONE of the most profoundly moving spectacles of all my experience was the opening processional on Sunday, August 22. Never before in Christiandom have mortal eyes looked upon such a scene. Bishops in robes and colors and with crosses of gold walked with other bishops whose garb did not distinguish them from official lay delegates who wore only business suits. Women were in that procession, too. Only the duly elected delegates of the Church marched-delegates from 150 churches, from 50 countries, and speaking all tongues and major dialects. But surrounding that majestic procession of our living triumphant faith, surrounding it and at times overwhelming it, were Christian leaders as distinguished as the delegates themselves. There were the consultants, fraternal delegates, the official and non-official visitors. Among them I saw Dr. Kenneth Latourette of Yale, the greatest church historian and analyst of modern times, and John Foster Dulles, world statesman and political leader, who always gives first place to his Church and faith. From every nation came such as these-men and women who, touched by the grace of humility and in awe, joined this occasion and sought to become its servants.

There were great moments in the program of that opening session. But for me the greatest came when John R. Mott, the father and founder of the World Council, said: "To the Church of Christ there are no closed doors. All the doors are open!" Then he was the Mott of half a century ago, then he spoke as the leader of youth who early

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captured my imagination with his "Evangelization of the World in This Generation." Aged, venerable, and sometimes moving as though another world were calling him, this elder statesman was the only survivor of all the immortals who more than forty years ago saw and planned the Council's beginning. Now again John R. Mott rose to a sublime moment, called the Council to the primacy of Christ and to the world task of Christ's Church. For many, as for me, that was the emotional high hour of Amsterdam's plenary sessions. I rested my head against the granite pillar at my side and offered a prayer of gratitude to God for this man and for the Council of Churches.

RIGHT here let it be written that Amsterdam's unity was not in plans or resolutions, nor was it in organizational particulars. These represented disagreements quite as often as they highlighted agreements. The Council did not dissipate its strength in marginal matters nor in theological disputations, To have concentrated on such subjects as apostolic succession, the sacraments, transcendentalism, creeds and masses, liturgies and informal worship, polities and forms of government-indeed, each and every dearly held Church and individual loyalty-would have led to disunity if not disaster. But unity survived because our unity was in ONE-in Jesus Christ and Jesus Christ alone. In Him and in no other is the Council's prophetic future. Amsterdam's successand its success is monumental-was achieved because of what it did not attempt quite as much as the truly great things it did attempt and accomplish.

Considering the tasks that must be unitedly approached and accepted,

there was a vast area of agreement, and the Council is now revealed as a permanent working agency of vast potentials. The annual budget of nearly \$600,000, more than 80% of which the churches of the United States are asked to raise, is significant of the Council's acceptance of its ministering role in the world of human suffering and spiritual need.

Pollowing Dr. Mott's opening statement, four of the great addresses of the Council were delivered: by Bishop Neil, of the Church of England; by Professor Hromadka of Czechoslovakia; by Karl Barth of Switzerland and by Mr. Dulles of the United States. Lest to mention these seems to disregard others, it should be added that these four addresses highlighted the points of final disagreement that on any other basis than a single unity would have wrecked Amsterdam before its final sessions.

Bishop Neil brought the Council and the churches face to face with their supreme business, the winning of individual men and women to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. He granted the importance of organization, but warned against giving first place to ecclesiastical forms and practices. His message was a heart-warming experience for the great assembly. He spoke as in another time John Wesley (who was also an Anglican clergyman) might have spoken.

Karl Barth did not retreat one theological inch from his formula. He was transcendental over all and at the expense (many thought) of all mortal efforts in time and space to do Christ's full bidding. I could only conclude that if Barth is right, then the Council should

(Continued on next page)



Procession of official delegates at the opening session.



RNS PHOTO

Swiss delegates: Messrs. Koechlin, Keller, Barth, Brunner.

adjourn without further waste of time and money-for why should even he be working so hard at the lectern under the blazing lights? But also I could still thrill to the glad and triumphant note of Christ's return. He sounded like my sainted father, and within the fellowship of Amsterdam pre-millennial, postmillennial and neutral clasped hands and were spiritually one. Barth would place one emphasis right where for many of us the emphasis belongs. He called for the rewriting of the Council's theme. "Change the order!" he cried. "Let 'man's disorder and God's design' become 'God's design and man's dis-order'!"

LATER Emil Brunner and Reinhold Neibuhr challenged us to action and more action, to service and service intensified everywhere throughout all human affairs. Always Amsterdam was like that. The eloquent Dr. Hromadka dismissed the Western nations as effete and without present hope or future promise, while he gave to communism, though he granted its atheistic philosophy, a most favorable presentation. He is one of those-among them some distinguished American churchmenwho, while making few criticisms of communism, constantly belittle the Western democracies. One interested listener said, "The doctor wants to go back to Prague!" But Hromadka in a later press conference stated that if freedom of worship were taken away in Czechoslovakia, he would, at whatever cost, challenge the Government. As to the present degree of freedom of worship in Czechoslovakia, there are differences of opinion. But there is general agreement that "effete" Western nations still possess a freedom not allowed anywhere within the Russian orbit. However, even this disagreement did not silence the easy and constant condemnation of all things Western voiced by Moscow apologists.

It remained for John Foster Dulles to challenge Amsterdam with the task of getting the Council's message to the laymen of the world-down into the grassroots of Protestant life and activity. He warned that if Amsterdam resulted merely in ecclesiastical definitions and formuli, the Council could itself become a colossal failure. He spoke for peace but always with words of dynamic realism; and I venture to say that no speaker will have contributed more to what comes out of Amsterdam than this dis-

tinguished American.

It would be easy to criticize Amsterdam-as did, for example, Frank Stewart of the Cleveland Press, who cabled his paper, "This is the greatest gab-fest I ever heard any place or any time." Chiefly, however, the criticisms of churchmen were directed against conditions social and ecclesiastical that made

Amsterdam both timely and imperative.

Dr. Samuel McCrea Cavert, General Secretary of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, pointed to the "disturbing discrepancies between the numerical strength of the United States churches and their weak influence on American life.

Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, Chairman of the Planning Commitee, said: "Our disunity is a denial of our Lord . . . We cannot win the world for Christ with the techniques of guerrilla warfare.

Martin Niemöller warned that Christian thinking is now in the same confused state as the rest of the world. But it remained for the fourth session of the Council, which dealt with the

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highly inflammable materials of international relations, to produce and release a document about which controversy will rage unrelentingly. In the opinion of many qualified observers, this report condemns communism and "The Christian capitalism equally. Church," the resolution reads, "should reject the idealogy of both communism and capitalism, and should draw men away from the false assumption that these are the only alternatives. Each has made promises that it could not redeem.

I do not believe that American Christians generally will accept the implication of this considerably less-thanhalf truth. They will equally regret that the definitive amendment offered by layman Charles P. Taft, President of America's Federal Council of Churches, was not adopted. Editorially in this issue I shall comment more specifically upon this vital matter (see page 18), but here let it be written that in dealing with the resolution, the character and genius of the Council, as a council,

was again demonstrated. The report was received but not adopted. It was referred to the churches themselves, to the Council's constituent bodies, for such action as they may choose to take.

There were many pleasant interludes at Amsterdam, and the fellowship was enriched by a state reception, a ride through the brilliantly lighted canals, illuminated for the first time in 16 years, and with visits to Amsterdam's incomparable museums of arts and sciences.

The impending coronation of Crown Princess Juliana added zest to the associations of the delegates with Amsterdam's gracious hospitality, and Juliana's visit to a plenary session was a major event. She is a gracious, lovely person and came with her husband to sit on the platform and listen with obvious and unfeigned interest to the addresses, which she applauded. She identified herself fully with this prophetic occasion of her own Protestant heritage and faith. Queen Wilhelmina, beloved of her people, has reared her child well, and the succession is definitely more than a scepter passed from mother to daughter. In her own right and "to the manner born," Juliana will be Queen of the Netherlands, but she reigns in the faith of Wilhelmina to whom the House of Orange was always both a trust and a promise. I am still an unreconstructed democrat, but I have now definite emotional leanings toward one royal house!

THIS story of the World Council of Churches would be incomplete without comment concerning Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam. Not since the revered Archbishop of Canterbury, William Temple, became the almost universally recognized voice of Protestant Christianity in the world, has any man grown to the intellectual and executive proportions of this bishop of the American Methodist Church.

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One correspondent has named him "master of organization," and as a president of the now fully organized World Council of Churches, his outstanding gifts will be invaluable to the new unity. But Bishop Oxnam is more than a master of organization, as well as a master in many fields, including the broad area of public speech. He has limitless energy. He is a warmly human and courageous fighter for the right as he believes it. He is a Christian statesman of eminent stature and with a world-ranging vision-yet is at the same time quick to respond to an appeal for service, however small.

I conclude as I began: the glory and wonder of Amsterdam is the fact that it was, and that now the World Council is. The quality of our faith, plus our dynamic dependence upon Him who called all of us into this Oneness, will determine what it shall become. END



MY BEDROOM window opens on the verandah roof. My desk is beside the window. My daughter-in-law, Marion, was sitting with a friend below.

"It must be tough going," her caller was saying, "raising three children in the home of your mother-in-law. The older generation have their own ideas, but you just can't let them run your children. I'm always glad Bob and I have a place of our own, even if it is small."

I moved quietly away from my desk. I knew Marion was sorry for herself, yes, and son John was too. I know young families get lots of sympathy under these circumstances. There is an uncounted host of them in that same spot today. They undoubtedly need the sympathy they get.

But a little matter often overlooked is, that if it is "tough" on the young, it is also a bit tough on the oldsters.

We were delighted when son John



Perhaps we should keep the door closed.

By MAUDE HILL BEATON ILLUSTRATOR: ARTHUR CUMINGS

got a good position and moved back to his home town. But alack and alas! there wasn't a house or apartment or anything else to rent in the whole town, at least not to a family with three children and a dog.

We, the grandparents, were sitting pretty, with three bedrooms, two of which were unused. What else could we do but say, "Come in children, come in." Grandpa put forth the invitation quite gaily. He's still in the office all day anyway. But the coming of two more adults and three small children certainly made a change in the daily program of the household. As a friend expressed it, whose daughter had come home with her husband and baby and whose son also had come with his bride: "It isn't the work I mind so much. It's the confusion. Somehow the confusion just gets me down." She was a woman not far in her fifties, at that.

Yes, after the years that follow when the children get married and leave, years when the house is so still—when you rest, or read, or come or go as you please—after those years, this continuous stir in the house, this round of eats, dishes, bottles, home laundering, the bruises and cries—it gets a little wearing on Grandma. And the young don't always notice it. And this is not to be wondered at either.

When Grandma left her chimney cor-

ner and put her shawl away in a trunk she forfeited much of that tender solicitude with which the world formerly shielded her. Grandma puts on her lipstick now, and her rouge, and rights her skirt length, and how is her daughter-in-law or even her own daughter to realize that this up-to-date creature, when it comes to a real show-down of



"Buy this, buy that, Grandma."

work and nerve strain, can't take what she used to take?

I know I am a lucky woman to have these grandchildren moving in with me. The woman next door has none, never will have. Her house is quiet, her time her own. I am luckier than she.

Besides, with the great lengthening of life in these times we must begin to realize that this gift of years is worth but little if we cannot still be of service.

(Continued on page 112)



In 1913 Starr insisted that "there is no such thing as a bad boy." His own great work since has proved it

By BEATRICE PLUMB

HE telephone bell broke the stillness of my Miami home. Over the line rushed the lyric voice of our church soprano, eager, excited: "Floyd Starr! You must meet him! He's my friend's guest . . . here for just a short stay . . . President of the Starr Commonwealth For Boys, at Albion, Michigan. May I bring him over?

I said "Do!" as one in a dream, my thoughts leaping the years to a far-distant day when I'd stood on the deck of a ship that was bringing me to America for the first time, listening to a fellow passenger saying those words to me, about the selfsame man! "Floyd Starr! You must meet him."

I closed my eyes and, in imagination, heard again the kindly voice of that New York minister at my elbow-sorry for any poor tourist bound for Detroit. "But since you're doomed to six weeks of it," he had smiled, "Here are four newsworthy men you should meet while there.

He jotted the names down on the back of his card. "The last," he mused, "is a foolish young fellow named Starr, who insists that there is no such thing as a bad boy!'

He turned from the vastness of the sea-wide as God's mercy-to repeat thoughtfully: "Floyd Starr. You must meet him. Because that foolish young man might be right!"

In Detroit, I'd easily interviewed all but young Starr. I never could catch up with him. Finally I'd stopped trying, But I had never forgotten him. Even when my summer trip had lengthened into a life-time spent in America, Starr had stuck in the back of my mind, as a bit of unfinished business.

And now, by mere chance-or was it by the Lord's plan?-I was to get that interview for which I'd waited so many years!

The door chimes rang-and suddenly I was shaking hands with Dr. Floyd Starr, a tall, well-built, handsome man, with a distinguished bearing and gracious manner. He looked at me long and searchingly, then smiled.

Those eyes! They are a magnetic grey, with stars in them that glow, brood, sparkle or twinkle, according to his mood. A wealth of iron-grey hair rises like a crest from a high, fine forehead-hair so electric with life that one half expects it to shoot sparks when he smoothes it back with long, musician's hands-the same hands that have ploughed and dug, baked and scrubbed when the Commonwealth was young and the going hard.

I told of the occasion when I had first heard of him. Instantly he was off in a rush of happy memories, his voice

unforgettable in its deep, rich resonance.

"That was the year I launched Starr Commonwealth. I started with two boys. We all slept on the hay in the barn of the forty-acre farm I had just bought with my own money. The farm had no homestead, no plumbing, no electricityjust plenty of weeds and cobblestones. But it had a little lake over which the sun set in a glory of color; some rolling hills—and the two-story barn! That was the beginning."

Such a tiny acorn from which to grow so mighty an oak! Two boys, then-and now, over a thousand boys, homeless, friendless, delinquent, have gone out from their "other home" beside the little lake, to prove the good that Floyd Starr insisted was always in them. Over ninety-six percent have proved it, some as ministers, college professors, high school principals, lawyers, musicians, athletes and countless farmers and industrial workers.

"I built our first cottage in 1913," said Starr. "I named it Gladsome Cottage, because it was such a gladsome thing to have really started, at last, to make my dream come true.

At last! Why, at that time, he could have been little more than a lad himself-that foolish young man with a strange conviction!

"Dr. Starr," I interrupted, "When did you first have this

idea of yours to save boys?'

"When I was three!" His eyes were twinkling, but he meant it. He was that age when he heard his parents discussing how Dr. Kellog had "adopted" fifty children. The following day he brightly capped (Continued on page 48) Miami
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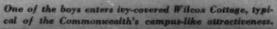
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"Give us this day our daily bread." Although non-sectarian, religion is stressed.







Says Starr: "There is wisdom in keeping the slack out of youth's line of energy." Hobbies, left, are encouraged and, right, no boy escapes occasional K. P. duty.



Body - building

sports that in-

still fair play are an important

part of the curric-

ulum at Albion.

The boys learn how to use farm machinery, and, right, the Commonwealth's fine choir.





N one of his orations Cicero said, "The grateful heart is not only the greatest virtue but the parent of all the others." The person who has a grateful heart has almost everything, whereas the person who has not has almost nothing. A wise mother believed that the grateful heart was the greatest virtue. When she sent her little child off to school for the first time, she prayed, "Today she goes to school. She is so little, God. She is my baby. Watch over her—where my eyes cannot follow.

"And dear God, there are so many things she does not know—about the other girls who will torment her and laugh at her for her mistakes—or maybe because her clothes are not as good as theirs—or because her hair is straight and won't ever hold a curl. She does not know about this kind of cruelty yet. Nor does she know about pushing or shoving. Protect her God with a grateful heart.

"And please, God, help her to love her teachers—all of them she'll ever have in the long, bitter-sweet years. Help her to remember that they are human too like her mama is—and that they too can get tired and cross and sometimes harSERMON-OF-THE-MONTH

By JOHN HOMER MILLER

ILLUSTRATOR: CHARLES ZINGARO

assed beyond endurance. Help her to give them her love, no apple-polishing, just that warm steady little flame that tells them that she appreciates. She will, God, if you give her the grateful heart.

"And she's bright, dear God. As bright as a new silver dollar. Please give her grace to carry this gift with humility.

"And one thing more—please, God, open her eyes and heart to the troubles of those about her so that all who look to her may be comforted—and none through her be willfully hurt. They won't, God, if you give her a grateful heart.

"A grateful heart is my prayer, God, for my girl who goes to school today."

There it is. A grateful heart is not only the greatest virtue but the parent of all the others. If you have it you have almost everything, if you don't you have almost nothing.

FOR ONE THING the grateful heart is the greatest virtue because it has little to do with a person's physical or ma-terial well-being. The grateful heart is found as frequently among those who have little as among those who have much. Oftentimes a person is more grateful when he's struggling, sacrificing, disciplining himself to get ahead than he is when he becomes successful, fat, forty and comfortable. If the grateful heart had anything to do with a person's material well-being, then Mrs. Edith Rockefeller McCormack should have been the most grateful person in the world. She was born in 1872, the daughter of the late John D. Rockefeller, and was educated to be the world's wealthiest woman and a social leader. In her early womanhood she was married with a great and expensive wedding. Compared with her, the Queen of Sheba was nothing but a simple, unsophisticated girl from the country. She had everything but a grateful heart. Lacking it, she lost her husband and was alienated from her children before her death. When she died, bills were filed for more than three thousand dollars to pay for the



flowers ordered for her funeral, for twenty-five hundred dollars for the last season's civic opera, and for a thousand dollars for a box at the opera. She died a broken-hearted and disillusioned woman who missed the sort of happiness that millions in the simplest life attain, because she lacked the grateful heart.

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In contrast, look at Madam Schumann-Heink, born in the direct of poverty in Berlin. She fed herself and her children by sweeping the floors and cleaning the windows in apartment houses in that city. She shared crusts of bread with her own and her neighbor's children. Her material well-being was no better when she came to this country. On her first day in Hollywood she shared her last seventy-five cents with Marie Dressler for a dinner. But she loved life prodigiously. She delighted in every opportunity for sharing. She never failed to feel the charm of simple things. Her grateful heart reached climatic expression during the first world war. She was the mother of eight children and she had five sons at the front. Four of them were on the side of the Allies, the fifth was in the German navy. Of him she says, "He was mistaken, but he did what he believed was right. I will not apologize for him. I never have. Remember, I was his mother, the same as I was the mother of four sons serving with my country's forces." One day as she sat down to her evening meal, a telegram came announcing that one of her sons had been killed in action. Without saying a word she bowed her head as was her custom and said, "O, God, we thank Thee for all Thy blessings."

ER grateful heart revealed itself in HER graterul near revealent Home—a her definition of home: "Home—a roof to keep out the rain . . . four walls to keep out the wind . . . floors to keep off the cold . . . Yes, but home is more than that. It is the laugh of a baby, the song of a mother, the strength of a father. Warmth of loving hearts, light from happy eyes, kindness, loyalty, comradeship. Home is the first school and first church for young ones, where they learn what is right, what is good and what is kind, where they go for comfort when they are hurt or sick, where joy is shared and sorrow is eased, where fathers and mothers are respected and loved, where children are wanted,

where the simplest food is good enough for kings because it is earned, where money is not so important as loving kindness, where even the tea kettle sings for happiness. That is home . . . God bless it!" The grateful heart has little to do with a person's physical or material well-being. It is the greatest of all virtues and the parent of them all because it is found as frequently among those who have little as among those who have much.

The grateful heart is the greatest virtue because it is found more frequently among those who give than among those who receive. The most generous people are invariably the most grateful, whereas the most miserly are frequently the least grateful. That is why it is more blessed to give than to receive. Thomas Lipton tells us that when he started in business he was very poor and made every sacrifice to enlarge his little business. He had only one assistant, a boy of fourteen-able, willing and honest. One day he overheard the boy tell an acquaintance that his clothes were so shabby that he was ashamed to attend church. After much thought Mr. Lipton took a sovereign from his carefully

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hoarded savings and bought the boy a warm, neat, durable blue suit. The next day the boy did not appear for work. Later in the day Mr. Lipton met the mother on the street and inquired concerning her son's absence. "Why," she replied, "my boy looks so respectable in his new suit, thanks to you Mr. Lipton, that I thought I would send him to other places to see if he could get a better job. That's where he is now." He who had given was far more grateful than she who had received.

During this Thanksgiving week take your own temperature, count your own pulse and see if you do not have a more grateful heart when you are giving than when you are receiving. In our generation multitudes of people have had so much given to them and so much done for them that they have lost the grateful heart. Instead of being grateful, they only expect more. Because someone played Santa Claus once they expect him to play it forever. The grateful heart is the greatest virtue because it has its origin in giving, more than in receiving.

Again, the grateful heart is man's greatest virtue because it is found not in the proud but in the humble. The most ungrateful person in the world is the man who boasts that he is self-made. He looks at what he is and what he has and can find no one to be grateful to but himself. A young minister and an old farmer were in the habit of holding conversations. They met on Thanksgiving Day and began discussing the question, "What must a man free him-self from before he can be really grateful?" The young clergyman made the suggestion that to be really grateful a man must renounce his sinful self.
"No," said the old farmer, wiser than he, "to be really grateful a man must renounce his righteous self." The most thankful people are the humblest.

THOUGH HE IS STILL LIVING Albert Einstein is ranked among not only the greatest scientists but also among the greatest men of all time. He has the mind of a scientist and the soul of a saint. He is living witness to the truth that the greatest of all is the humblest of all. He says, "Strange is our situation here upon earth. Each of us comes for a short visit, not knowing why, yet sometimes seeming to divine a purpose. From the standpoint of daily life, however, there is one thing we do know: Man is here for the sake of other men, above all else, for those upon whose smile and well-being our own happiness depends, and also for the countless unknown souls with whose lives and fates we are connected by a bond of sympathy. Many times a day I realize how much my own inner and outer life is built upon the labors of my fellow men, both living and dead, and how earnestly I must exert myself in order to give in return as much as I have received. My

peace of mind is often troubled by the depressing sense that I have borrowed too heavily from the work of other men."

That leads me to say that the person who really has a grateful heart spends his life trying to pass on to others something of what has been done for him, to share with others a little of what has been given him. The ungrateful person is afraid to be generous because he believes that other people will not appreciate what he does, or that they don't deserve it, or that he won't have enough to see himself through. In consequence, he never does half the good he is capable of doing nor does he find the happiness which comes only in giving oneself away. You never appreciate what is done for you unless you do something for someone else. Last week a woman laid a gift on my desk which I deeply appreciate. When I thanked her, she said, "I am only sharing a little of the much which has been given to me. I do not expect or deserve it, yet I always receive ten times as much as I ever give away. Every time I do something for someone I am repaid ten-fold."

Fifteen years ago a woman in another city, who has since left this world, said something which I have never forgotten. She did something for me and I expressed my gratitude. She said, "The only way you can thank me-the only way you can thank anyone-is to pass on, in one form or another, what has been done for you, to someone else." You know how deeply grateful I am to my father and mother for all they did for me in the early formative years of my life. In a real sense all I am doing is passing on something of what my father and mother gave to me and did for me-something of the greatness of their spirits, their sense of right, their faith in the goodness of life and the power of God to change the hearts of men. For three years I attended the Boston University of Theology. It cost me the amazing sum of fifty dollars a year or the total sum of one hundred and fifty dollars. But it cost the Boston University School of Theology more than one thousand dollars to have me there. That school was able to do that for me because of what men and women, ministers and laymen, in other generations had done for the school. I can never really be grateful to the Boston University School of Theology until I have helped it to do for the young men in future generations what it did for me.

Still, we have not said the most important thing about the grateful heart and that which makes it man's greatest virtue. The grateful heart always goes beneath the surface to the source of things. Dr. Richard Clarke Cabot of Harvard used to say to some of us students, "When you say to me "Thank you,' remember I could not have done for you what I did had it not been for

(Continued on page 98)



Shepherd
Shepherd
Senate
Senate

JOE COVELLO-BLACK STAR

F there is ever a Gallup poll on the most popular preacher in America, Peter Marshall will get a lot of votes. Multitudes have heard this Scotch-American minister who is pastor of Washington's swank New York Avenue Presbyterian Church and Chaplain of the United States Senate, and there is no record that anyone ever went to sleep while he was preaching.

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In ten years' time he climbed from the status of ditch-digger to that of topflight preacher in American Protestantism. The best churches want him. The Senate likes his praying so much that there is a move on to change the order of business so that more Senators can get there in time to hear Peter Marshall' talk with God.

It is probably his Senate praying that caught the ear of church and country; even the smalltown papers are featuring it. And no wonder. Never since the First Continental Congress has there been a Senate Chaplain with nerve enough to say to Senate and to God, "Save us from the sin of worrying, O God, lest stomach ulcers become the badge of our lack of faith." Or, another day, "Save us from the hot-heads who would lead us to act foolishly, and

from cold feet that would keep us from acting at all. Amen!"

A researcher trying to find out what it is that makes a great and popular preacher would be impressed first of all by the amount of ginger in this parson's mind and blood. Nearly 50 and looking 30, Peter Marshall has the audacity of a bag-piper and the enthusiasm of a man who knows he can't lose. The enthusiasm is contagious; it attracts unbelievable crowds wherever he goes.

We reached his church at 9:30 on a recent Sunday morning, early enough to get a front seat in any church in the land. We almost didn't get in at all. There was a line four deep running around the block on both sides of the church; inside there was standing room only at an hour when most of the country is still in bed or playing golf.

Every Sunday, it's like that. The regulars—members, pew-holders—go in first, up two ancient iron stairways off the sidewalk that look like misplaced fire-escapes. They let the visitors in after that. Two men from California, in the line just back of us, didn't get in.

At the first stroke of the church clock, Marshall bursts into the room. "Bursts" is the word for it; he almost runs into the pulpit. He has something to tell the world, and he's anxious to get at it. He is amazingly young: red-headed, ruddy, with a kindly belligerence on his face that tells you he will pull no punches.

What he says you never forget. He has a rolling Scotch burr on his tongue which other preachers around Washington say is worth at least ten thousand a year, but it isn't how he says it so much as what he says that goes in like a knife. He has a gift for word-pictures, for little dramas and folksy incidents; he takes you out on the road to Galilee and makes you think you belong there, and he brings you back sharply to Main Street. He never preaches over your head.

THERE is never anything academically intangible; he talks a grassroots language; and, inasmuch as there are a lot of people who understand that kind of language, he attracts a lot of people. One Senator told us he liked Marshall's preaching because "He hits us where we're at." He has the courage to say whatever he thinks God Almighty wants him to say. You can take it or leave it. Most people take it and come back for more, even when they dis-

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In \$ to	gratitude for my sight, I gladly enclosements be used in your World Mission the Blind.
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agree with him. This sermon is a twoway conversation between God and Peter Marshall, with the congregation listening in.

This particular Sunday morning, with his pews sprinkled with visiting Congressmen, politicians and diplomats, we heard him sermonize: "War got rid of the Kaiser and brought Hitler. War got rid of Hitler and brought Stalin. Now there is talk of war to get rid of Stalin. What will that bring?"

When the ladies of the D. A. R. slammed the door to Constitution Hall in Marion Anderson's face, he raged: "Whatever may be said of their position, I speak as an immigrant when I say that selfishness can make us withhold from others what we ourselves enjoy. And unless these good women have Indian blood in their veins, they are immigrants too."

When 26 lynchers were turned loose in Greenville, South Carolina, he told a congregation packed with Southerners, "Yes, Justice wears a blindfold, but that does not hold her tears."

This is his frame of mind: he preaches a burning faith in personal evangelism, with social applications. In nine out of ten sermons you will hear words like these: "We have the secret weapon of prayer-more powerful than the atomic bomb. God is still upon His throne. He has not abdicated. . . . I believe that the most important thing is that we come to know God." Every word he speaks and every move he makes is based upon the deep conviction that there is a tide in the affairs of men-and that God regulates the tides. He never thinks of what people might want to hear him say, but of what God wants and what the people need. He pushes Peter Marshall back, God forward.

That self-effacement is refreshing and a bit bewildering. Once, when a parishioner passed the remark that he wasn't "a Peter Marshall fan," he was so mad he could hardly talk; he made it plain that he was here not to recruit fans for Marshall but for the Lord.

His clipped, economical phraseology is a delight. Being Scotch, he never wastes a dollar or a word, and that is probably the result of his Scotch upbringing and of his Horatio Alger struggle to break into the Presbyterian ministry. The way he fought his way up is typical of the way he still does battle for the Lord. When he sinks his teeth into a proposition, he doesn't let go.

Peter Marshall was four years old when his father died, seven when he acquired a stepfather who liked liquor and hated kids. At 14, with life having resolved itself into a matter of cuffs and carousals, he ran away to join the Royal Navy; fourteen was too young, and his mother got him out. He went to work for six shillings a week, ashamed to return to school.

One Saturday night the stepfather ordered him out; he left home with all his worldly goods—one pair of clean overalls—rolled up under his arm, and with a job in a steel mill paying him 38 shillings (\$9.50) a week. That was Saturday; Monday morning he found himself promoted to foreman, at 3 pounds, 12 and 8 (around \$15). Marshall says it was the Lord's hand directing the tide. Nights, he attended the Coatbridge Mining and Technical College.

A preacher from the London Missionary Society came to preach in the

BOOKS I LIKED BEST L. Wendell Fifield

Dr. Fifield, the noted book critic, is pastor of Plymouth Church of the Pilgrims, Brooklyn, New York.



A GUIDE TO CONFIDENT LIVING, by Norman V. Peale (Prentice Hall). "The most practical application of the ideals of Christianity to personal living that I have recently read."

A STUDY OF HISTORY, by Arnold J. Toynbee (Oxford).

"Here is presented the argument

of all human experience for the ascendant importance of spiritual truth."

Human Destiny, by Lecomte du Noüy (Longmans, Green).

"Its rejection of materialism and its consequent affirmation of spiritual reality is soundly scientific and of utmost significance."

church he attended, calling for missionary volunteers. Marshall volunteered. In his heart, he had always wanted to be a minister or a missionary, not a mechanical engineer. But to become a minister or a missionary you have to go through theological school, and that costs money, and Marshall had no money. Opportunities to work your way through theological school are few and far between, over there; it just isn't done. The church offered to help him to the tune of ten pounds a year, but that was a small drop in too big a bucket.

He decided to try for an Andrew Carnegie scholarship, which would give him the wherewithal; he worked in the mills from six in the morning until six at night, then traveled three nights a

week into Glasgow to the university. He all his was no great shakes as a student; he flunked French twice in two semeswith ters but got by with the rest of it. It shilllooked like a long, hard road. Saturimself

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Then a cousin came home to Coatbridge on a visit from America. Marshall's father had paid the cousin's passage, years before, and now the forgotten relative turned up offering to pay Marshall's way across the Atlantic, by way of squaring the debt. Marshall prayed over it for three weeks-and decided to go. It took him a year and a half to get a visa (the Scotch quota was low, at that time), and in that year and a half he saved enough money to pay his own fare. He borrowed \$100 from the cousin, and sailed for New York.

He found some relatives in Elizabeth, New Jersey, who gave him a room. Ten days after he found them he heard that the New Jersey National Guard was paying a dollar a week for drills, so he joined the National Guard. That was part patriotism (he took the Oath of Allegiance within a few days after his arrival) and part good headwork; he figured that some well-placed office in the Guard might help him get a job. These were depression years, and jobs were scarce. His hunch worked: a Guard lieutenant got him a job-digging ditches for the Public Service Corporation in New Jersey. He swung a pick under two Italian bosses who knew every cussword in both languages and used every one of them on the wouldbe dominie; when he took a day off for a Guard parade, one of the bosses greeted him with "Get the h - - - out of here. You're fired!"

He found another job swinging a grub-axe on a golf course; when he took another holiday for a (command) performance with the Guard, he was fired again. He went to work in an iron foundry, leaving home at 4 a.m. and gettting home again at 9 p.m., with his hands so swollen and blistered that he had to have someone pull off his clothes before he could go to bed. Then he lost that job. He wandered along Broadway with four cents in his pocket, wondering where the theological schools might be. He had seven jobs in five months. This was The Depression.

Suddenly, a boyhood friend wrote him from Birmingham, Alabama, telling him there was a job open on the Birmingham News; he borrowed \$40 and went down there, where he nearly starved to death on \$17 a week. He attended First Presbyterian Church, like a good Scot; he never mentioned his preaching ambitions to anyone, and he was startled one day to hear Dr. Trevor Mordecai, the pastor, ask bluntly, "Just why do you want to study for the min-istry?" Marshall gasped, "How did you know?" Dr. Mordecai didn't know; he just "had a strange feeling about it."

Within a matter of months Marshall was teaching the men's Bible class and

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standing before the church session as a candidate for the ministry. He still had no money, but they fixed that; the 50odd men in the Bible class started a Marshall Scholarship Fund. They paid regular dues and sent the boy to the Columbia Theological School in Decatur, Georgia, with \$50 a month in his pocket. He graduated in 1931-just four years after he had landed in New York.

He spent three years in a "larger parish" church, then four at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Atlanta, Georgia-a modest tittle church with a small congregation and a doubtful future. He stayed there four years, packed the place morning and night, and had to put in a balcony to hold the crowds. People deserted other and bigger Atlanta churches to hear him; he was the most popular preacher in town.

In October of 1936, a committee came from Washington to hear him preach. They called him to New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, where there was a lot of pride, traution and top hats. He turned them down cold. He said he had to pay for that balcony in the Georgia church, and besides, the folks had just installed him and his bride in a new apartment, and you just couldn't puil out and leave folks like that. How long would it take to pay for that balcony? Oh, six months or a year.

The people at New York Avenue didn't quite get it. A young parson in an obscure Southern church had turned them down? They didn't like it-so they waited six months and called him again. This time he came. At 36 he was pastor of one of the nation's most important churches; just ten years earlier he had been digging ditches on the Jersey meadows.

He was young, boyish, alive. He's still like that. He has verve and snapa most attractive asset in the ministry; churches clamor for young preachers. A friend met him on H Street one Christmas Eve and asked him what he was going to give his year-old son for Christ-"An electric train," replied Marmas. "An electric train," replied Mar-shall. When the friend howled, he explained: "Look. All my life I've wanted an electric train. Never had many toys when I was a kid." For eight years he never missed rolling duck pins every Saturday night; he averages a healthy 104. He refuses to play golf; it takes too much time, and it looks silly.

He's moody, touchy, and at times almost prima-donna sensitive; he's had enough attention and spotlight to make any man temperamental. He got the idea, some time back, that there were a few in the parish who didn't like him; when a call came from the fashionable Highland Park Presbyterian Church in Dallas, he accepted it on the spot. There was a howl from the congregation that must have been heard in the Panhandle; a vote was taken, and it turned out to be 300 to 9 to have him

(Continued on page 104)

Gt Can Trike You!

Mental illness is spreading so fast in these harried days that we need to know what is being done—and what should be done—for the insane, also what religion contributes to mental health

BY STUART W. KROLL

PHOTOGRAPH BY FLORENCE ELLSWORTH

F YOU were asked what affliction you would most dread, you probably would say: "More than any other ill that could befall me, I would hate to lose my mind!

Yet today the number of persons who suffer from this affliction is on such an alarming increase that many go wanting for the proper medical and therapeutic care. And like any other illness it strikes the old and the young, the rich and the poor. No one is absolutely exempt from the possibility that tomorrow insanity may strike him!

Most afflictions, or the thought of them, can be borne stoically; they can even be made to minister to characterbuilding or the development of new or latent talents. Life can still be abundant and full for the physically handicapped. You can imagine yourself a physical shut-in, a cripple, deaf or even blind. So long as the mind remains clear you can lead a good and fruitful life.

But, when the mind goes . . .

We all have that fear, some more than others. There is a very narrow line between the state of being mentally healthy and being mentally ill. So we speak of the mental balance and that's just what it is. A hundred things, everyday things, common things can throw you off that balance. And of all, the most diabolical is the imaginary fear that grows and grows until . . .

HELEN AND GEORGE CRAIG lived in a small southern town with their 3-year-old daughter, Elsa. One day when George came home from work, Helen told him they would have to leave town because someone was trying to kidnap Elsa. When pressed for an explanation, Helen couldn't give one.

"I just know," she said. "I just know something terrible is going to happen to Elsa. We've got to get her away from here.

Daily Helen's actions grew more strange. She refused to leave the child for an instant. The child's welfare became an obsession and the mysterious stranger a vivid reality. At last, driven by desperation, George sought the advice of the family minister. He in turn, advised George to go to the family

"I can't go to him," George declared flatly.



"Why not? He will advise you about her condition. If you wish, I'll go with Helen. Perhaps that will make things

'No," George replied. "That isn't the point. My wife is a close friend of the doctor's wife. I won't have her disgraced like that. The whole town would hear of it; we'd never live

But you are dealing with something dangerous," the minister protested. "You owe it to the baby to put Helen under a doctor or psychiatrist's care. If anything should happen, you will be morally responsible. Go to a doctor, my friend,' the man pleaded. "Go before it is too late."

EORGE left the minister's house. Whatever he thought G or planned to do, he kept to himself. By some strange process of warped reasoning, he felt that this illness had a particular stigma to it and that the disgrace of Helen's being a victim must at all costs be kept from the public.

One day a few weeks later, George came home to find Helen holding the baby in her arms. The child was dead. Helen had smothered her so the imaginary kidnapper couldn't steal her. Helen's mind had gone . . . (Continued next page)

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And there is fear-the fear of losing the mind, even so slightly or for however a short while-haunting too many. A fear that sends its poisonous venon into many a strong mind and eventually destroys it. That fear is not so much the nature of the illness as it is the mark that is branded upon the victim by the callousness and indifference of the public toward one who has been unfortunate enough to have been ill.

You have seen it. The questioning eyes upon a man who has been "away for a while." The tapping of the forehead to indicate that the individual is a "loonie." Had that same individual suffered from a social disease, been cured and returned to take his place in society, he would be welcomed with slaps on the back and shouts of "Hi fella!"

As one man said, after fighting for three years against great odds and finally winning, "I came out of the shadows to enter the valley of despair!"

These fears too have been aggravated by a recent spate of books on the subject of ills in the institutions for the mentally ill-institutions that have been pictured as rivaling the Middle Ages for sheer horror and even brutality.

But all are not "snake pits!" All the well-publicized evils to the contrary withstanding, many states have taken the problem of their mental institutions seriously, and have created homes where patients are not only housed or shut away from society, but are doing a re-markable job of rehabilitation.

From the portals of these well-run institutions (and there are many) men and women of all walks of life are sent back, confident and anxious to take their place in society again-if you and the rest of society will let them.

Take the case of Anna C., a confirmed alcoholic. Once she had been the toast of cafe society. Where Anna was life was sure to be brilliant and sparkling, due to the sheer force of her personality. But gradually the craving for drink began to undermine her health. Voices spoke to her when no one was present. People appeared out of nowhere and disappeared again in the same fashion. Her mind became a bedlam of obsessions. And as her body gradually weakened, so did her mind.

Then it happened. Quickly and without fanfare she was taken to a sanitarium and given treatment for her illness, for that is what it was. Slowly she began to respond and at last was declared cured.

She resumed her place in society, but not as before. Something had changed. Gradually her friends sensed that change and wondered. You read about her now, but her name is connected with humanitarian works. The bright lights are still there, but to Anna they hold no lure. She found something during her stay in the world of unreality. She called it a 'purpose to live.' You might call it faith.

Faith born out of a stay in a mental

institution? How was it acquired? What type of place could give faith to those who so desperately need it? Where could one find it?

There are many you could name. Take the Norwich State Hospital in Norwich, Conn., for instance. Here you will not find patients lined up against walls like so many sticks of wood, clothes in gunny sack. Nor will you see them huddled together in dark and dank cells, waiting for the only release that is merciful to them-death. If despair is written on their faces, it is not because of the drabness of their surroundings.

For here is an institution that has taken its problem and attempted to solve it through humanitarian and Christian

BOOKS I LIKED BEST -Dorothy Canfield Fisher

Mrs. Fisher's latest book is "American Portraits."

CRY, THE BELOVED COUNTRY, by Alan Paton (Scribner's).

STEP DOWN ELDER BROTHER, by Josephine Niggli (Rinehart).

ROAD TO SURVIVAL, by William Voght (Sloane).

methods. You will never hear the word "insane" used. Disturbed, ves. Mentally ill, yes. So by a careful choice of words, a stigma is removed and hope is planted in the minds of both the afflicted and their loved ones.

That is the first step. Then the institution itself reflects this new design for living. Pastel colors are used upon the walls. Gone are the drab colors once associated with institutions. Linens are snowy white, Floors are immaculate and shining.

Recreation halls, libraries, a theater, sewing rooms, handicraft rooms, music rooms and even beauty parlors reflect the thought and planning by skilled staffs of doctors and psychiatrists.

Within its walls you will find all classes of people. The intellectual as well as the truck driver; the banker as well as the youth. All of them are ill, some to a greater degree than others and all who can share in the activities that center around the many recreational facilities.

And those who, by physical or mental restrictions, cannot by their own power attend these places of amusement What those Where

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or menir own sement R 1948 are provided for also. There are radios by the beds of those who are bedridden. These were purchased from the profits of a general store run by the staff and supported by the patients.

The hospital that treats them is equipped with the newest of scientific instruments and machines that aid in helping the patient to recover: X-ray machines of the newest type, machines used to register the brain waves of newly arrived patients that the cause for distress may be more accurately determined. You will find all this and more that points to progress in the science relating to the mind.

All this to aid in the physical recovery of the mentally disturbed. But what of the spiritual? Where did Anna, the social butterfly, find faith in this place of illness? When you speak of faith you think of religion.

And what has religion to say about the prevention and cure of the mentally ill? Is there anything mentally therapeutic in Christianity?

Jesus used it! You recall it is told: "Then was brought unto Him one possessed with a devil . . . and He healed him." Here was no shunning away from the afflicted. Here was compassion and patience used by the First of the great healers.

And if you want a latter day answer go to Chaplain Earl F. Mathewson. He is the chaplain of the Norwich State Hospital for the mentally ill. Nobody knows better than the chaplain. All such institutions do not have a chaplain; their attitude toward religion as a preventive and curative power in this field sometimes is one of indifference or even scoffing.

Not so at Norwich State Hospital. Five years ago the Reverend Mathewson, a graduate of Gordon College and later Andover Seminary, came to the hospital to take up his work among those people who had found the world too much for them.

But you cannot accept position of ministering to a world of confusion unless you are trained for it. Chaplain Mathewson prepared himself for this unusual work he is now doing by weeks of war duty, seminars, clinical demonstrations and case studies. Thus, from actual contact he was able to see into the minds of these people who were to be his flock.

More important than anything else, he was to be with them all the time. It was a new venture, so far as the hospital was concerned, although the armed forces have had their attendant chaplains for years.

The greatest obstacle that Chaplain Mathewson has to combat is the feeling of most of the patients that they are alone and forgotten by those who were once dear to them.

"I try to be a link between them and the outside world through spiritual guid-(Continued on page 116)



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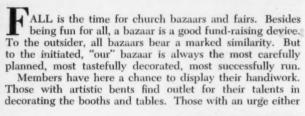
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Chairman Mrs. Joseph A. McCann, Vice-Chairmen V. E. B. Faller, Jr., and Mrs. Joseph Gellert look over Vin Mahons display. Right: Charles Plocher holds ship.



CHURCH



All photos by George Pickon, Three Lions



The local Girl Scout troop conducted the "fish pond." Below: Irving Jones is justly proud of his tatted tablecloth. Mrs. Blanck and Miss Plocher admire it.



Dressed in choir robes, Susan Currier and Persis Judd preside over the candle table. The Currier twins shop.



BAZAAR

to buy or sell can express that urge for the good of all. And whether one attends just to shop or to cater to the shopper, the bazaar brings members together in the rewarding fellowship of work done together, and with a purpose. At the Emmanuel Baptist Church, Brooklyn, N. Y., the

At the Emmanuel Baptist Church, Brooklyn, N. Y., the bazaar depicted on these pages represented the combined efforts of nearly 500 people, all of whom enjoyed themselves thoroughly. The church benefited—in more ways than one!



Jane Stewart helps Mrs. Orrin D. Judd select a book from the assortment gathered by the basaar committee.



Doll clothes and complete rag dolls were made by the ladies and sold well. Left: Mrs. Harold Currier presides at the Tiny Tot table of gifts for babies.



Emily Henderson took charge of the White Elephant table where sales were brisk. Below: Hat checking was done by George Hooper; the church pews were used.



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F you were to visit Memorial Home Community in the autumn you might be reminded of your return to college after summer vacation, You would see men and women greeting each other in pleasant voice and friendly gestures, "Hi, Jim; glad to see you back Mary, how did you leave your folks?" They have returned after four months' leave of absence. The curving walks again resound to brisk steps and bright new sweaters pattern the campus in gay colors. All is in readiness. The colored "boys" were busy a month, The lawns have had a last-minute mowing with edges neatly trimmed and shrubbery pruned back to youthfulness. The long line of palms standing attention on each side of the boulevard wave a royal welcome to those who rejoice to be home where sunny skies and sunny hearts bring warmth and peace to their declining years.

For here retired ministers and Christian workers of many different faiths enjoy the companionship of one another in Florida sunshine, within an economic set-up they can afford.

Memorial Home Community was established in 1926 by J. C. Penney in memory of his father and mother. At present there is a maintenance fee of \$15 for each couple occupying one of the ninety-three apartments, housed in twenty-two buildings of French Norman architecture. The sixty acres of land—comprising a golf course, playground for shuffle board and croquet—has been called "Sixty Acres of Heaven." It is now under the management of Christian Herald.

Although 70 is the average age of the residents, there is plenty of clear thinking and good-natured banter. "Why, how well you look," consoled a newly returned minister to a friend, "better than those of us who went away." "We always did that," came the crisp retort. They work, play and worship together and find anew that it is indeed the spirit that giveth life.

It is something of that abundant life

which makes Memorial Home Community such a happy place in which to live. Through the channel of everyday activity, social events and worship services, life is poured. As one frail little woman recently remarked; "It is the Christian fellowship here which means so much and we miss so when we go away."

She is living in a nursing home which she entered after her sister's death. A friend had brought her back for a brief visit,

First, there is the annual fall picnic held in the pavilion to welcome home residents and greet newcomers. There are always new arrivals in the fall. A few couples, owing to changed family conditions, may not be able to return. Death may have brought an apartment to the list of vacancies, to be occupied as soon as a renovating job is done.

If you were a resident here you would be asked to join with three or four other couples in your building in providing a complete meal for members of your house at the picnic. You might not al-

Prophecy's Light on Our Times

THE WORLD DICTATOR

Three of these have tried it . . . and it appears one is still trying . . .

WHO ?

We do not believe that it is possible for anyone to predict who is to be the World Dictator, and Dr. Smith will not attempt to name him, but Scripture is very clear in revealing that there is to be a world dictator, and Dr. Smith will have much to say concerning this prophecy in his article:



THE INEVITABILITY OF WORLD DICTATORSHIP

Probably no one of our generation has contributed more trustworthy and searching writings than the author of a series of articles beginning soon in the Times.

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ways find it convenient to sit together but, the social chairman explains, providing the balanced meal in small units takes care of all. At your house meeting you may arrange to take the main dish. baked beans or cheese souffle. Or if you prefer the vegetables, escalloped potatoes, or fruit salad. If you like to make pies you may take the dessert. Everyone takes a few sandwiches and coffee for two. A bit of surprise is often added to the picnic basket. A jar of jelly or pickles, homemade cookies or candy. At the last picnic two of the gardeners who raise a few chickens, brought a fried chicken each. The chicken, all on one platter, was piled high. That couldn't go down the line of course. So those at each end just discreetly looked the other way when the plate came.

One is seldom late for service on Sunday and on picnic days the long benches are filled before time. For when you are once seated you can't very well get out without disturbing many others. At noon all are impatient to begin. Someone started up a song. "Wait," called the social chairman, "you are stealing my thunder." "We are just practicing." "Well, come to choir rehearsal Thurs-The blessing asked, the superintendent announced there wouldn't be any speeches, and added, "Someone over there said, 'Good.' There are fifteen couples who have come in since Christmas, as I call their names I would be glad if

each would say a word."

We liked that, hearing newcomers speak was different. It helped us get acquainted. All spoke-just a few words of appreciation for this lovely home. Then we sang: "Annie Laurie," "Dixie," "We're Climbing Jacob's Ladder." It was suggested the men sing, "Seeing Nellie Home." We all joined in singing "My Old Kentucky Home" and at the end of the last stanza the leader asked we go through it again, "Just humming it." That was the first time we have had our mouths closed for an hour! Then it was rest time. One o'clock to twothirty. The program concluded with, "Blest Be the Tie That Binds." That is always our closing song unless the National Anthem is used.

The first Guild meeting of the season is looked to with unusual interest. It is a social event when women wear their smartest frocks and new hats-that is if they wear hats. Our dresses may not have been bought during the current season but they are never dated. For we wear what we like and have on hand. We may measure the length of the skirt, which is usually easily adjusted, but never the length of years,

"What a lovely dress you are wearing," I complimented a distinguishedlooking woman of seventy-odd years. "Yes," she proudly answered, "I bought this dress five years before we left our last pastorate and we have been here seven years. I just change it a bit once in awhile." "What a lovely dress Mrs. So and So is wearing." I remarked to a friend, "Yes," she whispered and added, You can have one if you like; she has a whole trunkful. A cousin sends them to her and anyone can take her pick."

Every woman here is a member of the Guild and takes a turn during the year in serving on the refreshment committee, providing fruit punch and cookies at the close of the program following the short business session of the meetings. At least it is short in the fall, Very little money has been left in the treasury to lie unused during vacation time. Perhaps a girl or boy was sent to a vacation school or a chair in the chapel parlor may have needed a new cover.

The business over, the program chairman took charge. A series of tableaus, each depicting a well-known song was shown while the song was sung as a solo or in chorus. A quilting frame covered with gold paper was erected in the center of the chapel platform. The paper has been retrieved from the wastebasket after a wedding by the member who cares for the chapel, "I never let anything go to waste," she explained. And a wonderful frame she had made!

The first "picture" represented the "Goddess of Liberty." It was posed by a large handsome woman draped in bunting and holding a flashlight in her upraised hand. She stood within the frame while all joined in singing the National Anthem, "The Rosary" posed by one of the smaller women; Tipperary" and "Drink to Me Only With Thine Eyes" by two Sunday-school girls. A tall slender woman in a long white organdy dress and picture hat was lovely as "Alice Ben Bolt." "Gypsy Love Song" was depicted by the resident physician's attractive young wife.

HALLOWE'EN night a woman came to our door and asked if I would go with her to play ghost on the Community grounds. I wrapped a sheet about me and tore a piece from one end for a mask. I cut eye holes. I was never a ghost before, so didn't realize I would have to breathe. There were four of us in the party and when I joined the others and saw they had "noses" they made me a "nose" too.

"Well, who are you?" the first surprised couple inquired as they answered our knock. "A bunch of highschool kids? Well, you are pretty good, it is the first time you have been around; let me see what I can find for you." As the lady turned to open the refrigerator we went next door. "We certainly didn't expect to see ghosts in Penney Farms; that's the last place!" exclaimed a newcomer.

"Let's see," smiled a dignified minister, pointing his finger at each of us in turn. "Let's see, there's Peter, there's Elijah, there's Jacob and-who is the other? O, yes-Paul." He bowed greetings, low greetings to each and stepped backward through his open door.

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d minn of us there's is the l greettepped Several couples apologized warmly for not being prepared for "Beggars' Night." Others said they had forgotten it was Hallowe'en and promised to be ready next year.

At the next house there were callers and here we were entreated, "Come in, do please come in and let us see you. We circled the room on tiptoes, moving lightly and quickly. We patted heads and plucked at clothing until there were bursts of laughter and applause. They were sorry they had nothing to treat, "but if you come back in half an hour we will make you some coffee." The coffee would have helped more than they knew, for our pep was running low. It was already late for Memorial Home Community residents and still wanting to guard our identity, we went home.

Perhaps the gardens are the busiest spots of all in the fall. Much hard work is required to prepare the beds for seeding and planting. The summer's growth of tall weeds and heavy underbrush must first be cut, then a deep trench cut across the width of the 50 by 100 ft. plot. The vegetation is buried and the earth heaped high. A ditch is left for drainage.

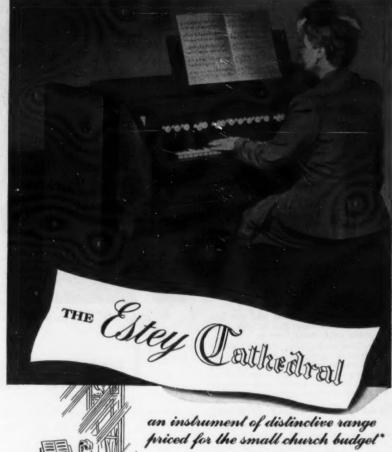
Of course, this is great exercise for the men. The gardens, too, are a friendly meeting ground.

We have radios and newsreels at our very back doors. Newsreels? Yes, that is what one woman calls her clothes reel. As she, and many others, hang their wash under sunny skies they breathe in the fragments of joy and sorrow that help us grow more friendly and more wise.

Along the north side of the garden a stream flows edging a country lane to which extends private property fronting on the highway. The most picturesque of these little places is a truck garden operated by an elderly Portuguese gentleman. Our ministers go there to buy early cabbage or strawberry plants and to spend an hour in friendly conversation.

When we arrived in January there were long rows of lettuce, cabbage and radishes ready for market. Someone inquired, "Have you seen the garden in the pines?" We went to look. We went the back way, through the garden and let down the bars in the fence and walked the log over the stream. There were the pines in long rows as straight as pillars in a church. Overhead their branches arched protectingly against winter winds. The earth was carpeted with brown needles and the long rows and patches of green made a pattern of unusual beauty.

We are deeply conscious of our many failures and human weaknesses. We confess our sins and acknowledge our faults. But, in "looking unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith," we commit ourselves and all others to His never failing love and care.



The CATHEDRAL reed organ is the latest achievement of an organ builder whose name for over 100 years has been linked with church music. This new single-manual model is especially designed for small church and chapel requirements. Fully capable of producing the wide range of effects called for in devotional music, the CATHEDRAL, nevertheless, is priced low by any comparison.

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Mr. Ryder addressing the Job Finding Forum of New York's Advertising Club.

Layman on the Job

John H. Ryder knows that Christianity can be practiced in business-he has been doing it for fifteen years!

By HAROLD B. HANSON

T WAS on a Wednesday about a year ago that I first met John H. Ryder. While waiting for the other dinner guests to arrive, we sat in the Fireside Lounge of the New York Advertising Club. John began talking of the power of prayer and of the work he was doing in organizing prayer groups to pray for World Peace. I was deeply impressedfor here was a layman who did not hesitate to discuss religion with those whom he knew but casually.

There were eight at dinner. Cocktails, an accepted custom at most New York social and business get-togethers, were omitted. Nor were they necessary, for seldom have I attended a dinner with strangers where the conversation

was more sparkling and delightful. It wasn't until later I discovered that some of the guests were people whom John was trying to help; one of them was an alcoholic.

At eight o'clock we went to a downstairs room where a group of about forty unemployed men and women were gathered for the weekly meeting of the Ad Club's Job Finding Forum.

These were the newcomers, and the marks of discouragement and disappointment lined the faces of many of the group. Then John began talking informally. His talk was punctuated with Scripture. The fee, he explained, was simply this: "After you have landed your job, return and tell others how you did it. Freely ye have received, freely

He went on to explain how the Job Finding Forum has produced jobs for thousands of people, from bus boys to clergymen, at salaries of from fifteen a week to thirty thousand a year. Gradually you could see hope lighting the faces of his hearers. Their faith was being rekindled. They became eager to

start preparing the kind of application that would land them the particular job they were best qualified to do.

If the "religious slant" seems unusual in conducting a Job Finding Forum, so is the man who has conducted it for the past eight years. Restoring the faith of humans comes naturally to John Ryder. Nor is finding jobs his only activity. He



JOHN H. RYDER A Portrait By Hilda Taylor

is a director of the Bronx Big Brother Movement and a trustee of the New York Big Brother Movement. There is ample need for such endeavor and plenty of work to be done to help set boys on the path to good citizenship.

Then, too, he is a director of the Laymen's Movement for a Christian World and national director of Laymen's Sunday, which is sponsored by the Lay-

men's Movement.

Although engaged in a profession often accused of indulgence in hyperbole, John conducts his advertising agency in accordance with Christian principles. It wasn't always so. There was a time when alcohol and tobacco were "an ever present help in time of trouble" and he had plenty of reason to seek escape.

Perhaps it was the need of guiding his two boys and two girls. Or his embarrassment when, after telling them not to worry, they asked, "How do you keep from worrying?" Whatever it was, John deliberately decided to let God take over his life and to do as He

directed.

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It wasn't easy at first, but, as John puts it, "Gradually a strange and new happiness came to me. My home life became a lot better. I was a better father and husband." It was particularly tough trying to apply Christian ideals to business. "At times it didn't look at all as if a Christian could expect to be prosperous or even reasonably successful, but I was too happy to change."

A few faithful ones who understood his position met with him every morning. Together they read a chapter from the New Testament and repeated the Lord's Prayer. Then they waited for God to guide them and assume that He directed their thoughts for the day.

How did the plan work? Well, after having practiced it for fifteen years, Mr. Ryder recently commented: "I can say now that we never lacked all the money we needed to carry out whatever we were guided to do. We always seemed to make more money than we needed, and so it is today.

Each morning the office opens with a half hour of prayer and quiet. Not all the sixty people on the staff attend, but the heads of departments do, and it is in this atmosphere that the important decisions are made. That they follow through their God-guided decisions is seen in their contacts with clients. The companies whose advertising affairs they handle find that "Inspiration Anchored in Truth" is producing results.

Contrary to the words of the old gospel hymn, John Ryder does not find himself "destitute, forlorn, forsaken." He recently told a large Westchester county (N. Y.) audience, "My life has become a lot more interesting since I

(Continued on page 101)

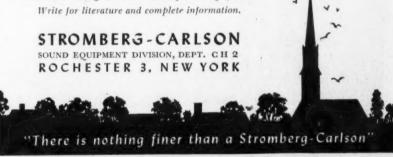


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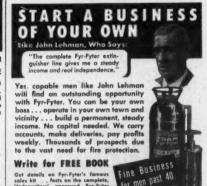
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NOVEMBER 1948

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FLOYD STARR

(Continued from page 28)

a score of questions with one more, 'Mother, what means adopted?'

And she-God bless all patient mothers who answer the questions of little boys!-had explained it so persuasively that from that moment on little Floyd knew what he was going to do when he grew up. He was going to adopt fifty friendless children!

His childhood ambition stayed with him through high school and college. He knew by then what type of child he most wanted to help. He chose studies that would help him understand the problem boy.

One day, with graduation near, a fraternity brother asked: "What are your plans, Starr? We never hear you

say."
"I'm going to buy a small farm and adopt a lot of homeless children-the sort nobody wants."

What a laugh went up! But young Starr was in dead earnest. Here, before the glowing log fire, relaxing with his good college friends, he told for the first time, his cherished dream.

But that was the day when the "first offender" was considered a young criminal, sentenced to long years in a reform school; garbed in ugly prison uniform; put on silence all day; locked in barred cells all night; repressed by a score of rigid rules, for breaking of which there were harsh punishments, including unmerciful floggings and the deadlier dungeon.

No wonder his college pals were skeptical! Take kids from the streets, the juvenile courts, broken homes and unspeakable environments, and raise them in normal homes, with no bars or bolts!

"There is no such thing as a bad boy!" flamed young Floyd Starr, never dreaming that he had formulated the first article of his now-famous creed, which starts with those very words, adding: "We believe that badness is not a normal condition but the fruit of misdirected

He wrote the creed the year he and his first two "wards" were sleeping in the barn, before ever a stone of the present great Commonwealth had been laid. That creed has reformed, from the inside out, twelve hundred boys to date, some of whom were thieves, forgers, bandits, "toughs" who were terrorizing their communities. Somehow, Starr has loved them all into shape!

"They weren't bad boys," he explained. "Each had some little kink in his character that needed to be straightened out. It took time, of course, and a lot of patience, and sometimes heartache, to find out why he was wayward. But, sooner or later, we were working at that kink together. For every normal boy deep down in his heart wants to be good."

As I listened enthralled to this radiant man, who one minute has the buoyancy of a boy and the next, the dignity of a bishop, I rejoiced with him at the way God has blessed his venture.

At first, forty stony acres, yielding only two sparse crops to feed healthy young appetites. "Oh," groaned Starr, those everlasting beans and boiled potatoes!"

Now, eleven hundred acres-over a thousand in farmland, growing thirtythree varieties of farm and garden

BOOKS I LIKED BEST -Robert G. Lee

Dr. Lee was recently elected president of the Southern Baptist Conrention.



THE BASIS OF CHRISTIAN FAITH, by Floud E. Hamilton (Harper). "Scholarly and excellent, settling intelligent doubts about Christianity.'

BEYOND THE ATOM, by John De-Vries (Eerdmans).

"A Christian's explanation of scientific data. A great evaluation of our Christian faith in this age of atomic science. It strengthens faith and makes more powerful our Christian testimony.

Is JESUS GOD? by John R. Rice (Sword of the Lord).

A mighty answer to all infidels, atheists, and modernists who question or deny the deity of Jesus and the authenticity of the Bible.

produce! A fine herd of full-blooded, registered Holsteins, a modern dairy, thousands of Leghorn chickens! All the fresh vegetables, pasteurized milk, real butter, and fresh eggs, one hundred and sixty boys-many of whom arrive undernourished-can eat!

At first, one simple white frame cottage, called "Gladsome." Now ten beautiful residences, each a home in the truest sense of the word. All gifts from a true democracy of donors-from a fund, a foundation, from a Palm Beach bank president; from a local handy-man who loved boys and left his life savings to buy a little farm-house to shelter eight homeless incorrigibles. From a society matron, a working housemother, an osteopathic physician, a wealthy man of the world, a young architect who,

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after spending one challenging day at the Commonwealth, hurried home to persuade his good mother to donate a badly needed new cottage.

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The very beauty of the campus is a gift; for, in 1917, T. Glenn Phillips, noted landscape architect of Detroit, drew plans for the entire grounds and buildings as his "missionary gift for the

Starr likes to keep his family close-knit to him and to one another. He achieves this largely by his interminable letter-writing. Hundreds of letters pour in to him from his "old boys." During the last war it was thousands, for over five hundred of his lads served their country, all with courage, some with distinction, bringing their citations, ribbons and medals home for their "Uncle Floyd" to applaud. Some limped back as cripples; some never came back.

Starr answers all mail from his beloved boys. Not in a form letter, but in one so personal, so warmly human, the lads carry them in their pockets until

they are worn ragged.

Still another way is through the Starr Commonwealth News—a neat little paper, well-edited and illustrated, put out by the boys on the campus, and mailed to each "old boy" ten times a year. Starr is proud of the fact that the Commonwealth is the only corrective school in the world with an alumni association.

He spoke ruefully of the Commonwealth's first schoolhouse—a tar-paper shanty, where the boys froze in the winter, sweltered in summer. And before that, a corner of Gladsome, where Starr—all the teaching staff there was!—had to dismiss school when the table—all the school there was!—was needed for the frugal meal of home-made bread, lard, beans and potatoes.

Now there is a fine, modern school building, well equipped, expertly staffed, taking the boys through the eleventh grade; and, for high-school seniors and junior college students, picturesque Reynolds Hall in Jackson, Michigan.

Are any of them college material? The alumni files tell the story. James is a superintendent of schools, winning his masters in School Administration from Columbia University last year. George is director of the medical museum of the largest hospital in the world. Gordon is pastor of a fast-growing church, his second pastorate. Jack and his bride are enrolled in a Bible college preparing themselves for religious work together.

The roster shows old Commonwealth boys now college professors, journalists, newspaper men, lawyers, artists, aviators, an author, a mining engineer, a New York broker, an exporter, a bank

executive.

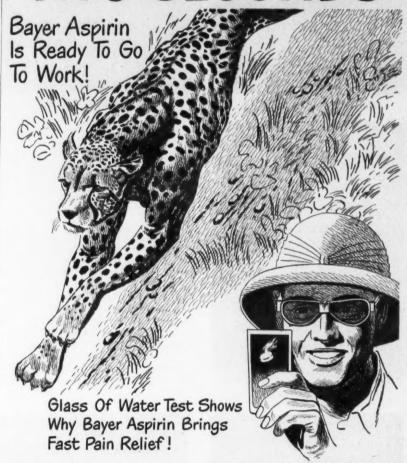
"And some are even policemen!"
twinkled their Uncle Floyd which, perhaps, is the ultimate in so-called
"reform"!

THE END

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The Fastest Animal
10 Seconds To Run
A Fifth Of A Mile...
But In Only



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Bayer Aspirin's amazing speed of disintegration is important when you have an ordinary headache, neuritic or neuralgic pain. For when you're suffering, you want really fast relief. And Bayer Aspirin gives it to you because it's ready to go to work in two seconds. You can see this—see what happens in your stomach when you take Bayer Aspirin—by drop-

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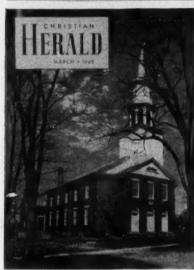
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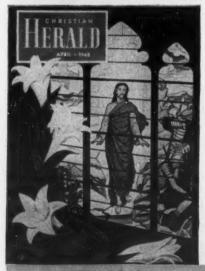
MARCH 1948

Which of These Covers.

THE interest that Christian Herald readers take in their magazine—its visual appeal as well as its contents—is one of the very heartening things connected with editing this journal. Reader reaction is always so prompt and so vocal that it makes the physical job of putting the magazine together an exciting adventure. You never know what the customers will say!

And what they say always counts! Much greater and more careful heed is paid to your preferences than you even suspect. When we're sifting through hundreds of manuscripts and pictures each month, we do so with your likes and dislikes, as expressed in your letters, firmly in mind. Therefore, what comes out as the finished product is quite as much of your choosing as it is the choice of the editors.

Where we specially value your help is in the choice of our covers. To get that, we annually put on a Cover Contest. This contest is a perennial stirrer-upper of excitement. Last year it brought more than 6,000 replies, each expressing a pref-



APRIL 1948



MAY 1948



JUNE 1948

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FEBRUARY 1948

Did You Like Best?

erence for certain covers used in the preceding 12 months. Why not get in on it? All you have to do is look over the covers for the past twelve months, reproduced on these two pages, and pick out the three you liked best, in order of preference (1, 2, 3). To the reader who picks the three most popular covers, and who in addition gives us the best idea for a Christian Herald cover for any forthcoming issue we will forward a check for \$50.

Make your suggestion for the cover idea short, simple, plain-not complicated. Remember that you are suggesting a cover for more than a million people to look at. Put your idea in as few words as possible. Add a short letter if you wish.

No letters or other material in this contest will be returned.

Entries must be mailed by midnight of November 15, 1948. So fill in the belownow. Paste it on the back of a penny postcard, or enclose in an envelope and mail it TODAY! (Note closing date-replies received after Nov. 15 will be discarded.)



AUGUST 1948



NOVEMBER 1948

To the Editors:
CHRISTIAN HERALD
27 East 39th Street, New York 16, N. Y.
Of all the covers used on Christian Herald during the past twelve months, I liked these three best:
1 2 3
My idea for a good Christian Herald cover is:
NAME
ADDRESS

130 G.I.'S

STAND TO PROFESS CHRIST..

THE place—a crowded chapel at a West Coast Army base. The time—the closing seconds of the Moody film "God of the Atom."

Lights flash on. Then . . . in thrilling response to a simple invitation . . . men all around the room rise to accept Christ as their personal Saviour. In just two showings 130 men profess salvation!

Wonderful? Yes! But not unusual—for across the country, thousands of persons, especially young people in schools and colleges as well as military camps, are finding God in Moody films presenting Bible truths through science.

Produced in Los Angeles at Moody Institute of Science, these motion pictures are the work of Dr. Irwin A. Moon and his staff of Christian scientists. Leaders in their fields, these men have caught the vision of reaching the unsaved through photographing the vast wonders of space, the pentup power of the atom and the mystery of growing, living things.

And doors are open to these films. In showings at schools and colleges alone within the last two years, more than 1,200,000 young people have seen the pictures, "God of Creation," and "God of the Atom." Only eternity will reveal how many decisions have been made for Christ, how many lives have been changed, because of their telling message.

But a still greater work lies ahead. In the United States alone, thousands-perhaps millions-who

might be won for Christ in this way have never seen these films. And in Europe and around the world . . . where communism and atheism battle for the souls of men and nations . . . it has been possible to send only a few copies of one film.

That is why, some evening soon, one of the Moody films may be shown in your church-to acquaint Christians with this work and permit you to share in it in a material way. Meanwhile, as you support the many ministries of Moody Bible Institute by your prayers and gifts, you have a special part in the great testimony of these scientific films.

"VOICE of the DEEP"

The Institute's most recent natural color sound film is now being seen throughout the country in city-wide premiere showings. Watch for the announcement of this special showing in your city.

MILIO

For more than 60 years a GROWING testimony" MOODY BIBLE INSTITUTE PLACE . CHICAGO 10, ILLINOIS H 1211



A Sunday School Christmas Pageant

ABOUT this time of the year, women's church groups are mulling over their plans for the celebration of Christmas at the church. May we helpfully offer an appropriate suggestion for a Sunday-school Christmas pageant.

There is no more impressive way to present the sacred story of the Mother and Child. When children share in the religious side of the holiday, they are creating a tender living picture for themselves as well as for the audience of parents and friends. Further, the church is the most suitable place for this type of presentation. A Christmas pageant offered by the children of the church school, albeit amateurishly, is infinitely more sincere, more worship-

ful than any professional spectacle, however magnificent.

The role of the women's groups in the pageant will be that of making the costumes and the scenery and cooperating with the Sunday-school faculty in the selection of the cast and the direction,



ILLUSTRATOR: HAZEL HOECKER

The following pageant illustrates the supreme effectiveness of simplicity. It tells the story we all know, mostly through the lips of the shepherds. "All These Gifts" was presented last year by high-school children in Hindman, Kentucky. It is an original pageant written by Diana Lockard, the recreation teacher there. Twenty-five children took part (as few as twelve can manage by doubling up in the roles) plus three voices off-stage. The glee club, singing the accompanying music, sat in bleachers at one side of the auditorium since there was no room behind the scenes. However, twentynine girls all clad in dark skirts and red sweaters with white collars looked appropriate and pretty.

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HELP RESTORE RAVAGED CHINA

This bleak skeleton of the bombed Women's Hospital in Soochow is an eloquent plea for the reconstruction of vital China mission buildings. The Restoration Fund has done much, but hundred of churches, schools and hospitals are yet rubble.

Give and Keep

Many a Presbyterian will be stirred to help mission work abroad-and also in America, where the need is ever with us. Perhaps, however, you cannot afford to give a large sum. You must provide for your own security. Fortunately you can do both through the purchase of a Presbyterian Annuity. The funds you place in an annuity are fruitfully invested for missions, while you receive a steady life-long income as high as 7%—depending upon your age. Every six months you receive a check.

Deduct from Income Tax

The principal sum and the income from an annuity are largely deductible from income taxes. No medical examination is required. Send in the coupon for details of how a Presbyterian Annuity helps Christian work while it brings you security for the rest of your days.

NUITLES

156 Fifth Ave., New York 10, N.Y I'd like to make my money work for tell me what percent income I would	ever. Please
birth date being	
At the present time I am most in Missions in America Mission	
Name	
Address	
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The pageant opens with a prologue laid in the present. Three figures clad in plain dark coats are dimly visible in front of the curtains. The glee club sings the first verse of "It Came upon a Midnight Clear."

SCENE ONE opens on a street in Bethlehem. The corner of an inn is visible in the center rear with its door opening on to the street. (Inn is painted to look like stone, done on beaverboard, cloth or cardboard.) In this scene, three different groups of people approach the crowded inn for lodging. The landlord agrees to take the family who numbers most, to make more money. As he is complacently considering aloud all the money he has taken in, his eye is caught by the splendor in the sky.

At that moment he is accosted by Joseph and Mary seeking a room. In jest the landlord says that the only unfilled spot in his inn is the stable. So Joseph and Mary bid him take them there. The glee club closes the scene with "Silent Night."

SCENE TWO shows the interior of Ephraim's home in the valley. The time is about two hours later than Scene One. The shepherd's wife cares for their newborn son while his father watches the sheep on the far hills. The room is pale tan, to simulate mud walls. At one side are a stool and a table with a wooden bowl, a clay pitcher and a candle. At the window burns a candle close to a cradle. As the curtains open, Boy enters from outside. He tells his mother that he has been sent by his father for a loaf of unleavened bread. They discuss wonderingly the brightness of the night, and the mother says:

'Tis strange this radiance on our hill. Mayhap it is a good omen for my newborn babe.

Mayhap it brings good fortune somewhere on this tired earth.

As the curtains close, the glee club sings "The First Noel."

SCENE THREE opens on the hill where Ephraim and the other shepherds too are wondering at the brightness of the night.

As they scan the sky, angels enter singing "Hark Now, O Shepherds," and tell the shepherds to leave their flocks and go to Bethlehem.

Ephraim feels that he and Boy should stay to guard the flock while the other two go to bring the fresh-baked bread to do Him homage. Just then the Three Kings enter on their search for the Baby born to rule the world. Ephraim tells them of the angels' coming and they too hasten in anticipation to Bethlehem. Boy begs his father to let him accompany them. Ephraim

SCENE FOUR shows the rough shed back of the inn. (It was a frame made of small logs with wire over the top on which straw was laid to look like thatching.) On one side is a crude manger filled with straw (with a light bulb in a tin can to light up Mary's

Mary closes the pageant, saying:

We thank you, gentle friends, For all your goodly gifts; and for the love and joy

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In which you've brought them. This joy and love shall be your recompense.

(Slowly as in benediction)

The peace which fills this night Shall echo in your hearts through years to come,

And in the hearts of all men everywhere Who turn to Him.

As she finishes speaking, the glee club sings "O Come All Ye Faithful."

THE AUDIENCE was enthusiastic in praise of the pageant. It took about three weeks of preparation and Diana

LARGE QUANTITY RECIPE FILE Fruit Cake en Casserole

2 lbs. seedless raisins 6 eggs, well beaten cup sour milk 1 lb. seeded raisins 1/4 lb. candied cherries
1/2 lb. citron
1/2 lb. dates 1/4 lb. candied orange peel 1/2 cups currant jelly tablespoon vanilla 1/2 teaspoons salt 2 teaspoons nutmeg 1/2 lb. figs 1/2 lb. blanched almonds 1/2 lb. (2 cups) flour 2 teaspoons cinnamon l teaspoon allspice 4 teaspoon cloves ½ lb. (one cup) butter ½ lb. (1¼ cups) sugar 3/4 teaspoon soda l teaspoon baking powder

½ lb. (1½ cups) sugar

Chop fruits and nuts coarsely; dredge with ½ cup flour. Cream butter and sugar. Add well-beaten eggs, sour milk, jelly, vanilla and mix well. Sift together remaining flour, salt, spices, soda and baking powder. Add flour mixture through a sifter to the egg mixture. Beat until smooth. Stir in dredged fruits and nuts. Pour into three well-greased, one-quart glass baking casseroles. Put covers on dishes and bake in slow oven, 275° F., for 2½ hours. Remove from oven; cool without removing covers. If desired, seal edges where cover joins dish with paraffin. To steam cake instead of baking, set covered casserole into steamer or on a rack in large kettle partially filled with water. Makes 3 cakes, one quart each.

-Courtesy of Corning Glass Works

With this issue, the Woman's Place Benartment. Cornell, enters its second year. Have you found in it the things you want and need? Have you any suggestions as to the kind of material you would like to see here? Mrs. Cornell would like to know, in order to better serve you. Write her now!

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was polishing her manuscript up to the moment rehearsals started. The simple costumes were homemade by friends and teachers, and the scenery prepared by the children with a little adult help. Most of the lighting was with red, blue and amber lights, and combinations of these three. Against the dull grey background this was quite appropriate. The lights and costumes were most effective. Inspiration for biblical costumes can be drawn from religious Christmas cards and paintings. Shepherds usually wear coarse brown smocks tied with rope at the waist, extending to the knees, feet and legs are bare, and bound around with thongs holding the sandals. Headcloths of dark material are tied around the forehead and hang short over the shoulders. Tall staves indicate their occupation, and a rolled and tied-up sheepskin jacket can pass for a lamb slung over the shoulder. Mary is often shown on her way to the inn in a dark red flowing gown and Oriental veil falling to the shoulders, In the manger scene she wears soft blue and white. Joseph and the other men wear long, colored, loose robes over plain kimona-shaped gowns. Headcloths are bound on their heads, and of course all the characters wear sandals. The kings' colors are yellow and purple, and their costumes are richer looking than the others. In this pageant they wore made-over giltedge plush curtains. Their crowns were brimless old felt hats, covered with velvet and ornamented with beads. Pastel-dyed cheesecloth draped the

If you would like the complete script of the pageant "All These Gifts," check the coupon at the end of the section, and enclose 50c with your request. There is a diagram and explanation of how the set was constructed to facilitate scene shifting. After deduction of mailing costs, the money will go to the Hindman Settlement School.

In this department last December we published suggestions for costuming Christmas pageants, and also mentioned the booklet "How To Make Costumes for School Plays and Pageants" offered by the Rit Products Corp., 1401 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago 7. The fol-



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lowing books have ideas for setting up backgrounds, lighting, costumes and lists of other pageants appropriate for church groups which can be produced successfully by amateurs: "Guide to Religious Pageantry," by Mason Crum, Macmillan; "Plays and Pageants for the Church School," by Marie W. Johnson, Beacon Press, Boston; "Good Times for All Times," by Lamkin, French.

· PIN MONEY PLANS ·

NE of the secrets of making money is good timing-and now is the time to make fruit cakes and plum puddings for the holidays. Let it be rumored around town that you or your group are planning to prepare these good things for sale, so that your prospective customers won't go ahead and make their own. Unless someone has an heirloom family recipe that she makes each year, a busy homemaker is usually glad to have a delicious homemade fruit cake or plum pudding without having to cook it herself. And she'll know it is really good, too, because she has tasted the sample that you have prepared.

An idea for a group doing this project is to meet one afternoon and prepare the total amount of fruit and nuts needed. It's this cutting up that takes so much time for one person. Then the amounts of fruits needed for each batch could be weighed or measured. and each person take home ingredients necessary to prepare one recipe. To price your goods, charge at least double the cost of the ingredients. Two-andone-half to three times the cost is sometimes charged if prices of similar items in your locality are high. Be sure to wrap the food to keep it fresh and attractive looking. Try the cellophane used for frozen foods which may be sealed with a hot iron. Tie with holiday ribbon and put in a box or decorated can. Another tip is to sell the goods in the containers in which they are cooked-for instance, the fruit cake in the large quantity recipe might be sold in its pyrex dish. Add the cost of the dish to the price. This type of "wrapping" makes the product especially nice for people to buy for gift-giving. If you would like recipes for plum pudding and other fruit cakes, check the coupon at the end of the section,

BOOKLETS

HERE are some new food booklets full of ideas to inspire you to prepare something good to take to the potluck supper or to vary your own regular meals.

"58 Ways to Serve Sardines" (free) from Seaboard Packing Co., Lubec, Maine. Delicious sounding recipes with wonderful colored pictures of dishes made with sardines, unusual and appetizing.

"From Soup to Nuts with Real Manonnaise" (free) from the Best Foods, Inc., 1 East 43rd St., New York 17. This little booklet covers not only the origin of mayonnaise but contains recipes for soups, seasonings, sandwiches, salads and some new ones for sautéeing with mayonnaise.

"Coconut Glamor Desserts" (free) from Consumer Service Dept., Franklin Baker Div., General Foods, Hoboken, N. J. The newest ideas in cooking with shredded coconut are here. How to use both the extra moist or the regular shredded kind. There are colorful pictures and recipes for all kinds of desserts and tricks and tips for using coconut.

WITH meat expensive and choice undependable, your contribution to the main course of the covered-dish supper may usually result in Macaroni and Cheese or Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, and so does everyone else's. To relieve the monotony and help you plan a variety of hearty, economical and satisfying main dishes to serve as the nub of a meal, the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture offers their booklet, "Money Saving Main Dishes." There are recipes for 150 good nutritious main dishes with general directions for cooking, buying, tenderizing and seasoning meat, suggestions for meal plans using the recipes as well as variations for them. And they all taste good to read. For your free copy, ask for "Money Saving Main Dishes," U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, Office of Food and Feed Conservation, Washington 25, D. C.

INFORMATION PLEASE

APPARENTLY many women's groups are turning to song for both entertainment and inspiration. We have had requests lately for suggestions for a musical evening. Has your organization or circle had a successful song-fest lately? Perhaps your selections would appeal to others. Send us a description of your program. If you are looking for ideas on this order, watch for them in the March issue.

Answers to July's question: "What use do you find for things usually discarded?" All over the country we heard from thrifty women who use milk cartons for setting out plants, for storing food in icebox or frozen-food locker, for transporting food to and from church bazaars and dinners. String bags are used as holders for cleaning equipment, clothespin bags, toys, bulbs, or even crocheted into dish clothes. Some suggestions we are saving for next month's Christmas decoration special. One of the different ideas is from Mrs. W. J. Archibald of Madero, Calif. She wrote: "I made twenty-four pairs of house shoes from discarded felt hats and old leather and leatherette purses

(Continued on page 58)

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for the school children's bundles which we sent overseas last November in response to the Church World Service request." Her simple pattern may be had by checking the coupon at the end of the section. Mrs. Archibald also cuts down cardboard milk containers and pours in melted candle ends. Hang a string in the center by tying it to a skewer laid across the top. You can color these homemade candles by adding crayons to the melting wax.

Mrs. A. J. Bodurtha of Westfield, N. Y., has found a good use for empty evaporated milk cans which are of thinner tin than other cans. She heats one end to melt the solder and removes the top, leaving a sharp cutting edge. She uses this end for a cookie or biscuit cutter, bending it into desired shapes. One she keeps for chopping potatoes. Always punch several holes in top to prevent a sucking action.

SINGING stimulates good cheer and good fellowship. Fun-songs weld a group of all ages together and even make strangers, friends. Sometimes special words are needed to make a favorite tune suit a special occasion or celebration, or honor a particular person. There are some parodies of well-known songs but they are hard to find when you want them. "Parodology," Songs for Fun and Fellowship by E. O. Harbin (Cokesbury Press) is a book of 423 different songs—stunt songs, pep songs and fun songs. For instance to the tune of "Come to See Mis' Jenny and Jones," you can sing the following rhymes inserting someone's name:

Hello Mr. —, hello Mr. —, a speech you're going to make.

Put in all the pen you can pen you can

Put in all the pep you can, pep you can, pep you can.

Put in all the pep you can and then we'll keep awake.

If your group has its own favorite set of words to some familiar tune, we would like to print them for others to enjoy. Send your ideas this month to: Information Please, Woman's Place Department. The best suggestions will be printed in the April issue.

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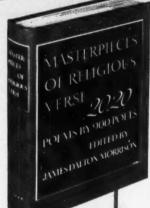
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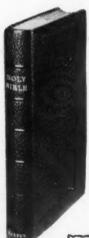
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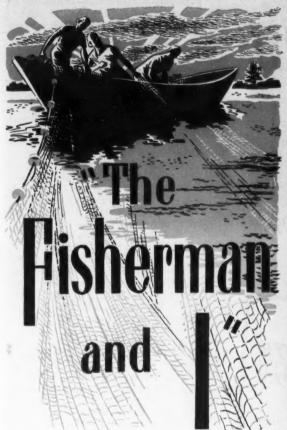
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A recent portrait of Lloyd C. Douglas.

There will be no movies, no radio broadcasts, no condensations, no serializations, no book clubs . . . Douglas wants no tampering with "Big Fisherman," his new book on Peter.

By JANETTE T. HARRINGTON

IG, bumbling Peter, the most beloved of the apostles, and the other of the Lord's disciples behave just like ordinary people if you give them a chance to express their personalities. That is the opinion of novelist Lloyd C. Douglas. And he should know, for he has been living with them closely for the five years during which his latest book, "Big Fisherman," has been in preparation.

Writing from the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles, where he put the finishing touches on the big new novel shortly to be published by Houghton-Mifflin Co., Dr. Douglas confessed that he was glad to get the book off his hands and his mind. Toward the end, he says, it began to interfere with his sleep. "The people in the story chatter all night like magpies. Even James and John claimed they weren't close enough to the camera. Once, you'll recall, their mother complained about it."

Dr. Douglas calls this sequel to "The

Robe" the most exacting thing he has ever tackled, and expects it to be his last book. Now seventy-one, he suffers severely from arthritis, and his five-year stint of writing "Big Fisherman" was often interrupted by illness. For this reason, he doesn't expect to attempt another full-length novel, but plans to confine his future writing to editorials and short stories.

"Big Fisherman" was written under a unique contract that permits no movies, no radio broadcasts, no condensations, no serializations and no book clubs. Dr. Douglas says he "doesn't want the movies fumbling with the book." In "Big Fisherman" Christ appears, and Dr. Douglas thinks that, while we can write about Him, Jesus does not lend Himself to photography. "The movies have tried to make "The Robe' for five years. Christ doesn't appear in that book directly, but He has to be handled in an august manner. It's too much for the movies."

Most of the writing on "Big Fisherman" was done at Las Vegas, Nevada, where Dr. Douglas lives with a married daughter, but in the summer months he works in Los Angeles because, he says, it is so hot in Las Vegas that "the hens lay hard-boiled eggs." Aside from the heat and his bouts of ill health, he lets few things distract him from writing. "I'm not a bit temperamental," he says. "When you start writing at fifty-two, you're too busy catching up to take time for airs and poses."

"B¹G Fisherman" stands a good chance of reaching peak best-seller proportions if all those who read "The Robe" read its successor. At the last report, sales of "The Robe" had topped 2,000,000, and the book had been translated into 17 languages.

Lloyd Douglas claims no special secret for his ability to write of the times of Christ in a manner that attracts wide



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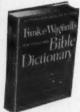
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readership. Yet he is able to lay his finger on a factor that succeeded in making "The Robe" more of a profound personal experience than a novel for its readers, and bids fair to do the same for "Big Fisherman." He perceives that people are hungry for closer glimpses of the Master, and that anything that helps them to visualize the impact of His presence on the lives of those who lived in His time, and to imagine what they might have said and what their reactions might have been, fills a real need in the lives of presentday readers.

His aim is to get close to Biblical figures and make real people of them. "I find that the Lord's disciples, once you take them down out of the stained windows, behave about the way every-body else behaves," he says. "Take body else behaves," he says. "Take off their halos and they're bald as a pumpkin.

"In this book, I don't let them get away with anything on the ground that cathedrals have been named after them. Poor Peter is in the doghouse a great deal of the time, although he comes up quite a fellow after Pentecost.'

The Douglas method is to build a story around people who lived in the time of Christ, bringing in known Biblical figures as their paths cross those of his fictionalized characters. In "Big Fisherman" he tells the story of Fara, half Arabian and half Jewish, who rides into Palestine on an errand of vengeance, and Voldi, a young Arabian noble who takes up the errand when Fara forgets her hate. John and James and the other apostles, Joseph of Arimathea, Pontius Pilate, Caiaphas, Herod Antipas, John the Baptist and Salome people its pages, and Jesus himself is a central character. The scene is the shore of Galilee, crossroads of the world, warring then as it is now.

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The author believes that his books gain a great deal of their realism from the fact that his people talk in the ordinary language of everyday living, laugh, worry and suffer through the same problems, the same fears and the same passionate indignations that we do today. The dignified diction of the Bible he believes to be essential to formal religious services but feels it is out of place in reconstructing conversations which in their day were spoken in the marketplace.

Douglas does not think that any special experience is required to write a book about the time of Christ. He thinks that anybody who writes simply and sincerely and avoids controversial issues can write so as to be read, because people are eager for a new evaluation of the old story, and particularly in times of anxiety they yearn to strengthen their own spiritual foundations by re-living the days of Christ on earth.

Nevertheless, since Dr. Douglas was a commanding figure as a novelist when

he first began to turn back the pages of history, he is singularly well equipped to tell a story that is both dramatic and

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His first novel, "Magnificent Obsession," was written more or less by accident. When he was a minister in Los Angeles, he had a book of essays to write, based on the theme that personality can be projected through private philanthropy. It occurred to him that the subject might reach more people if he were to contrive a story about it. The result was "Magnificent Obsession." Brought out by a small publishing house, the book went to market without benefit of the large advertising campaigns conducted by the larger companies, but, strangely enough, had forged its way well up on the bestseller list two and a half years later.

Other novels followed, and by 1943 Dr. Douglas had chalked up "Forgive Us Our Trespasses," "Precious Jeopardy," "Green Light," "White Banners," "Disputed Passage," "Home for Christmas," "Dr. Hudson's Secret Journal," "Invitation to Live," and "The Robe."

Dr. Douglas already had almost a lifetime as a minister behind him when he began writing. Born in a village parsonage in Indiana in 1877, he attended Wittenberg College and Theological Seminary in Ohio, and was ordained in the ministry in 1903. Married soon after, and before long the father of two daughters, he found it helpful throughout his early pastorates in Indiana and Ohio to enlarge his income by making addresses around the

When he was thirty-one, he accepted a call to a prominent church in Washington, D. C. Unfortunately, he followed an eminent pastor of forty years standing, and his congregation found it hard to adjust to his lively and informal preaching. Both were glad when, three years later, he received an invitation to go to the University of Illinois as Director of Religious Work.

At the University, Douglas had time to do considerable speaking and also to write essays and articles. He liked student work, and was gratified a few years later to be asked to become pastor of the First Congregational Church in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

There followed five years in Akron, Ohio, the center of the rubber industry, and then the brief ministry in Los Angeles which was his last before he embarked on his writing career.

After twenty years of successful writing, Dr. Douglas can afford to write a limited contract ruling out lucrative radio and movie versions of his new book, out of what he calls the wishes of an "irascible old man" who has written a book and wants it to stay a book. But his readers will hope that when he says, "I don't think I'll have the courage to start another full-length book," he may change his mind. THE END

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THE

by DANIEL A. POLING

CROSSWINDS, by Martha Cheavens (Houghton Mifflin, 278 pp., \$2.75).

JUDGE this novel one of the finest of any year. It has the whimsy of "Pollyanna" and at times the mood and music of Louisa M. Alcott's writing, but it is as virile as Zane Grey. You will be stirred to the depths and you will weep more often than laugh, but your questions are finally answered and there is a happy ending. Perhaps the principal character is a preacher, though in this play there are so many leading parts that you are never quite sure. The key word is "faith" and it comes alive in men, women and little children. The doubt that assailed the preacher was born in the heartsickness of a realization that World War I had not made another war impossible. But down on the Texas-Mexican border he found world affairs for him centering in a poor Mexican for whose life he fought. Then at last he discovered something greater than life itself.

GANDHI'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY (Public Affairs Press, 640 pp., \$5).

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BRIDIE STEEN, by Anne Crone (Scribners, 304 pp., \$3).

ONE of the most moving and tragic novels that has appeared in a generation. Filled with tumult and tragedy, it is a story with remarkable achievements in the art of truly great literature.

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This is a novel of religious conflict that will arouse protest and that will be pleasing to no sect or faith, but the author has tried to be completely objective and impartial. Perhaps when man has learned the art of love that in Jesus Christ came fully alive, he will understand what this author has to say. The conclusion is summed up in the words of William Henry: "We fight about God and we have never known Him. We are poor mockeries of men with little jealous minds."

THE PARSON TAKES A WIFE, by Maria Williams Sheerm. (Macmillan, \$2.50).

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BOOKS IN BRIEF

POCKET BIBLE HANDBOOK, by Henry H. Halley (H. H. Halley, Box 774, Chicago 90, 764 pp., \$2). This valuable, if not indispensable, handbook for Bible students and other workers in the vineyard, is now in it eighteenth edition, which attests to its well-deserved popularity. The latest edition contains some revisions and additions which add to the book's value. An out-



Over three dozen editors spent ten years in preparing the Pilgrim Edition of the Holy Bible, published by Oxford University Press. Seated left to right: Dr. E. Schuyler English, editor-in-chief; Marion Bishop Bower, associate editor. Standing left to right: Dr. Herbert Lockyer; Dr. Clarence E. Mason, Jr., dean, Philadelphia School of the Bible: Dr. Philip E. Howard, Jr., editor, "Sunday School Times"; Dr. Allan A. MacRae, president, Faith Theological Seminary. This is the first Bible especially annotated for young Christians.

65

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EARL WARREN, by Irving Stone (Prentice Hall, 176 pp., \$2). This is the story of a great American. He happens now to be the vice-presidential candidate of the Republican party, but his quality, personality and genius for leadership are not partisan and they are immeasurably greater than his candidacy. Equally moving, as found be-tween these backs, is the story of Nina, his wife. Here is a volume you should not miss.

HATE, HOPE AND HIGH EX-PLOSIVES, by George Fielding Eliot (Bobbs-Merrill, 284 pp., \$2.75). A dramatic first-hand account that brings us face-to-face with practically every important figure of the tangled and embittered Middle East. In no previous book has the fallacy of the almost universally held belief that fierce Arab tribesmen could muster effective resistance to a Soviet army on the move been so completely exposed. This author has been particularly alone in his factual understanding of Arab weakness and equally he was the first military authority to rightly appraise Jewish strength in Palestine. From the beginning, recognizing the Arabs' individual strength and courage, he prophesied that Jewish unity and eager courage would win in battle. There is no betterknown commentator and writer on international military affairs than George Fielding Eliot and this book adds to his stature.

LET'S ACT-NOW! by Richard T. Baker (Friendship Press, 124 pp., 50c). This is more than just a book on missions. It is a stimulating contribution to lay understanding of what is involved in a true Christian advance in modern missions. Reading it, you get an inspiring picture of a marching church, an army with banners highheld and far-flung, an army going somewhere, doing something. And again and again, you get the invitation, by direct word and by implication: "The church invites you to come along!" To us, the unique value of the book is that it pulls the discussion of world Christianity down out of the clouds and out of the crowds, and aims its impact directly at you and me-and tells us what we can do to help.

JESSICA, MY DAUGHTER, by Ari Ibn-Zahav (Crown, \$3). A unique and great novel which is a reconstruction of the Shylock story. Intensely dramatic and written with devastating accuracy, this story is not as Shake-(Continued on page 71)



The young curate grew very tired of being awakened by young hooligans ringing his bell in the middle of the night. So he set out to reform them

HE Rev. Vern Swartsfager, new curate (assistant pastor) of the St. Matthew's Episcopal Cathedral in Dallas, couldn't get much sleep at night because of bell ringing. And of all places! Right on the cathedral's 12acre grounds, within a five-minute bus ride to town. And such a noisy bell!

The curate had always been curious and inquisitive. This inquisitiveness had been developed to a high degree while he was a newspaperman. Swartsfager had been everything from a copy boy to assistant night city editor on newspapers from coast to coast until he turned to the Episcopal Church as a deacon in 1943 and then a priest

It was early one evening that he first

By STEWART M. DOSS

tried to catch the bellringer. As fast as his short, pudgy body could carry him, he raced from his cottage on the cathedral grounds to the bellcote. A slowly swinging bell and its 20-foot rope were the only things he saw.

Some days later, the priest used a more effective strategy. He armed himself with a Louisville Slugger bat and hid in the shadow of some bushes near the bell one evening. His black vestments blended into the dark night. He waited patiently. Finally, light footsteps sounded. He could almost hear the 6-foot figure breathing. Some clouds shifted and a shaft of light illuminated the face of a 14-year-old boy.

The priest, who resembles a juniorsized edition of Charles Laughton, the movie actor, huskily inquired if there was anything he could do for the boy. The boy, who shall be called Johnny, tried to get away. The priest only tightened a grip on Johnny's right arm. He didn't believe the boy's story that he was just taking a short-cut home and told him so.

Swartsfager threatened to call the police. This shook the mysterious intruder, who told his story. He was a member of the Royal Legion Blackshirts, a gang of teen-age toughs who didn't think anything about roughing up drunks and "rolling" them, burglarizing stores or homes or robbing a

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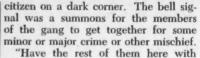
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you in a few days for a talk with me,"

said the priest.

What's happened since then-two vears ago-has become history in the annals of St. Matthew's Cathedral. The complete story was told recently in the Macmillan Company's "The Bell Ringers," written by the padre. A movie company is dickering for the rights to film the story of Swartsfager and his experiences with young people.

Swartsfager told the story again, briefly, to a representative of CHRISTIAN

HERALD.

The padre got in touch with the rest of the gang. The way he treated them to achieve his objective to reform them and start a juvenile delinquency preventative program wasn't exactly orthodox, he relates, but it has achieved re-

He told members of the Royal Legion Blackshirts-renamed the Gremlin Club -that they weren't tough. Who but a sissy would use a gun to get money? That was lazy. Real, honest-to-God he-

men worked for a living.

And so they smoked. What did that prove? Smoking didn't make a man tough. It hurt him. He could prove it. And there were practical things to think about before a boy started smoking. It costs around \$100 a year to keep many smokers in cigarettes. Was it worth it? Just think what \$100 a vear could do. The clothes it would buy. Think of the ice-cream sodas it would buy.

And there was another thing, pointed out the candid priest. Some of you guys drink beer and whiskey, he said. Only sissies do that. You do that to bolster your courage before you "pull a job." You admit it by your actions. And after all, didn't ice-cream sodas taste better than beer? They had to

admit it.

"This is a tough world, boys," Swartsfager told them. "God likes people to be tough-His way and for Him. Any boy can lay in bed on Sunday morning and sleep. It takes a tough guy to get up and go to Sunday school and church."

This original and continued approach to juveniles has worked with the padre. The Gremlin Club has grown to include young people never in trouble. The sheriff, judges, probation officials and welfare workers have called on Swartsfager ever since, at all timeseven in the middle of the night-to take on and counsel problem young people.

Swartsfager has been in touch with almost 500 young people since he caught the bellringer. Ninety percent of these young people are on the straight and narrow. The others, he sadly observed, are in prison or rece

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formatories. The ten percent worries him. He can't do everything by himself. There really aren't any delinquent children, he reasons. It's the parents that are to blame.

He believes parents themselves drive their children to crime and trouble. He says, without any hesitation, that the young people who get in trouble are mostly from privileged and over-privileged families. The parents of children in trouble, asserts the padre, usually worship their own bodies (vanity), money and covetousness, or the social ladder. "These parents," he added, "set no exemplary example for their children.'

But the padre has worked with youngsters from the other side of the tracks also. All his dealings with young people haven't been with the privileged. He relates in his book of a girl he has chosen to call Eloise. She was pretty, smart and bad. It wasn't really her fault. The background of a broken home, said the priest, could account for a lot. She lived at home-a dull home because both her mother and step-father worked. The 15-year-old girl had lots of time to herself-and mischief.

Things came to a climax in the life of Eloise-almost all in one evening, She sorely wanted a new dress, She knew three boy friends who would do almost anything for her. Well, almost. She told the friends that evening she would go to White Rock Lake in Dallas and-to use the language of the young people-"neck" all of them for money to buy the attractive dress which she had described.

Eloise took over the car she was riding in with the boys and left them at a beauty shop which they prepared to rob. She drove off a distance and waited. The boys robbed a jewelry store instead of the beauty shop. Two of them returned to the car. The other had fallen and was caught.

Eleven dollars was all the job netted the two who had gotten away. Eloise still wasn't satisfied. Eleven dollars wouldn't buy the dress. She talked the two friends into trying to rob a hamburger stand. This, too, failed as the counterman only laughed at an obvious finger thrust into a pocket to resemble a gun.

They were carted off to jail.

At a distance from the stand, Eloise saw that her friends hadn't been successful. So she drove the car home within three blocks of her home. When Eloise entered her home she found her mother drunk and her step-father in an amorous mood. She knocked him over the head with a blackjack. For all purposes he might have been dead.

Swartsfager happened to be at the county jail that evening. He was talking to the desk sergeant when the boy who had fallen in the jewelry store robbery was brought in. Swartsfager

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questioned him. While he was talkingthe other two boys were brought in. The persuasive priest got the whole story from them and looked up Eloise.

The padre found the step-father unconscious, but alive. He called the doctor and the ambulance. Eloise was scared and told the whole story.

The offense was the first for the boys. All got suspended sentences. He told Eloise the only redeeming thing about her was her purity. Eloise was told to go to a church of her choice.

He spoke at a church of another denomination six months later. Seated in the audience was Eloise, who had become a Sunday-school teacher, her stepfather and mother.

He insists upon one definite condition to help young people in or on the verge of trouble: They must attend church. It doesn't have to be an Episcopal church. Any church. He hears about it if they don't attend. Members of the Gremlin Club keep check on each other.

A young person can always borrow money from Swartsfager. They put up \$2 of "honest earned money" with him to show that they plan to go straight, He loans as much as \$100 (but mostly smaller sums) to get young people over financial humps. Sometimes, he said, young people get in trouble because they need money fast and don't know where to get it legitimately.

Many young people are released to the padre by officials. A few professional do-gooders, Swartsfager sadly recounted, don't appreciate his juvenile work. They think, the priest related, that he should have a psychiatrist's degree.

JUVENILE delinquency, said the priest, isn't just a problem in any one city. Swartsfager said there are "gangs" in almost every city of the country. Give him an hour and a car and he can find one almost anywhere,

Some of the things that Swartsfager discovered stood the hair of staid preachers here on end. He uncovered a gang which allowed girls to become members after they had submitted to immoral advances from several boys in one evening.

Forty-four-year-old Swartsfager has shocked Dallas with his activities. Many people in Dallas now believe that his proposal for a million-dollar kid's World, Inc., may be something beside a dream.

One of the main features of Kid's World would be a huge ranch—to be financed by donations—where young people after their first brush with the law or those whom the law can't do anything with, would stay for several months of training and guidance.

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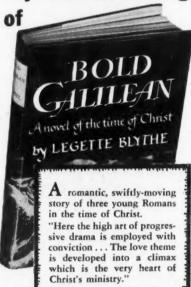
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THE NEW BOOKS

(Continued from page 66)

speare wrote it, but as another has said: "As he might have written it had he done the historical research of this author." The anti-Iewish laws of Pope Pius IV in 16th Century Venice were not unlike the Nuremberg laws of Adolph Hitler. Mr. Ibn-Zahav has drawn a brilliant and convincing parallel. The novel itself, however, from the first paragraph to its startling conclusion and climax is fiction authentic and in a grand manner.

LATE HAVE I LOVED THEE, by Ethel Mannin (Putnam, 350 pp., \$3). This is a majestic novel. It is mature but never offensive. The story is the redemption of man and the triumph of the human soul. Only objective readers will fully appreciate the beauty and indeed glory of these pages. Others will see in it propaganda for a faith; but its hero could have been a Protestant-John G. Payton, or Father Duncan-or a Jew of the stature of the Maccabees.

STUDY IN DANIEL, by Howard B. Rand (Destiny Publishers, \$5). I agree that this book is a "must for prophetic students and for all who are numbered among those of whom the Angel was speaking when he said, 'The wise shall understand'." Here is the most complete and literal of the interpretations of the prophecies of Daniel that have appeared in a generation. Part I is devoted to a history of world empires. Part II to the remarkable vision seen by Daniel, describing in symbols the religious economic and systems of the nations, and the order of world warfare.

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THE SHINING MOUNTAINS, by Dale Van Every (Julian Messner, 407 pp., \$3). A magnificent novel of the Lewis and Clark period. The love story has profound depths and its shadows are equally deep. The book is mature, realistic and both brutal and tender. The descriptions, the historical material and the geographical data are well balanced with true fiction. CHRISTIAN

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YOUNG KING DAVID

By MARIAN KING

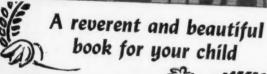


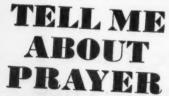
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 In this beautiful and distinguished book, Marian King recalls one of the most fascinating characters in all history-young David, called as a lad from guarding his father's flocks to be anointed a future king. Beautifully illustrated by Steele Savage.

Ages 11-15

IPPINCOTT





By MARY ALICE JONES

beloved author of TELL ME ABOUT GOD, TELL ME ABOUT JESUS, TELL ME ABOUT THE BIBLE



Through simple, natural conversations between Bobby and his mother, Miss Jones explains why we pray, how we pray, and the different types of prayer. With each chapter there is a section of suggested prayers for children. Non-denominational and planned for family use, TELL ME ABOUT PRAYER is a book to help any parent make prayer a part of his child's life.

A lovely, large book, richly illustrated, \$2.00 At all bookstores

RAND MCNALLY & COMPANY New York . Chicago . San Francisco



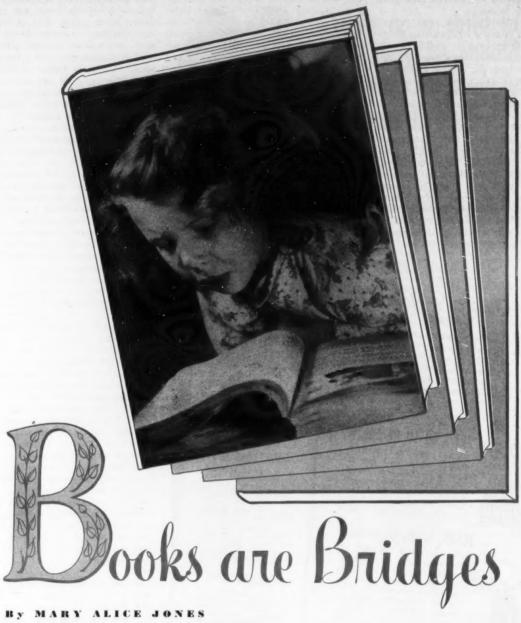
HERALD must regret episodes that keep so generous and fine a novel generally from the home and church library.

THE RUNNING OF THE TIDE, by Esther Forbes (Houghton Mifflin, 632 pp., \$4). A historical novel of breadth and depth; Salem's fabulous story of ships and men. Vast treasure so quickly found and as quickly lost as told on these pages becomes a profoundly moving drama. Seldom has a tortured conscience been portrayed as in the life of the principal character, "Dash." The happiness he sought was marred by the sacrifice of his brother Peter on his account. There are glimpses of Eastern cities, of the golden roof above the Orient and of streets of squalor and poverty. There are storms at sea, blockade-running and we are carried on the first penetration of Japan. Also there is realism that will be an offense to many Christian HERALD readers.

JUDICIAL DOCTRINES OF RE-LIGIOUS RIGHTS IN AMERICA, by William George Torpey (Chapel Hill, 376 pp., \$5). This volume traces from the beginning the history of religious liberty in America. The author shows that, like all other human rights however enshrined in constitutions, this right is continually being partially lost and then perhaps more fully recaptured. Because of recent court decisions the book is timely and imperative.

PERSUADE OR PERISH, by Wallace Carroll (Houghton Mifflin, 392 pp., \$4). A brilliant appraisal of the present cold war that keeps the whole world overheated. Mistakes made by the United States in Europe—needless mis-takes—are tabulated. These mistakes help Russia drive a wedge between the United States and her natural allies. Beyond these mistakes, however, a path to understanding is pointed out, a road to power, to unity and peace. The author concludes that we must make up our minds to accept world leadership. That America must persuade or perish!

LIFE STORY, by Phyllis Bentley (Macmillan, 290 pp., \$3). At 90, the central figure of this fine novel was still a charming and even beautiful woman. The story begins on Hannah's 10th birthday and continues then through childhood love and married happiness, success and failure, through a haunting tragedy on into the deep sunset of a life that does not end when the book is finished. It may be said of Hannah, after all the vicissitudes of her failing fortune, that when last seen she was still thinking ahead. Her career falls naturally into four periods-the Fearful, the Mighty, the Beleaguered and the Fallen. A psychological novel of distinction.



MARY ALICE JONES

T was a beautifully illustrated and well-bound book. It had been recommended by the librarian. Grandmother examined it in the book store with pleasure. "It will be just right for Mary," she said, beaming at the thought of having so satisfactorily solved the problem of what to give her granddaughter for her ninth birthday.

But Grandmother discovered that something more than her own and the librarian's approval was necessary before a book could be the right book for Mary. Mary had to like it! And for some reason, obscure to Grandmother and the librarian, Mary did not like their choice for her.

There are reference books and certain types of text books which the child regards as necessary tools. Other than these, children are enriched and strengthened and helped to understand themselves and others only by books which they enjoy. If the book does not appeal to him, no matter how much some adult may think it would be "good for" the child, it just does not help him.

In view of this, to suggest for children "books with a purpose," as this article frankly sets out to do, may seem a pretty deadly procedure. Yet it need not be so. For if adults plan with the child, consult his taste and avoid forcing books upon him, it is possible to guide his choice and help him find books which will be his books, books which he loves and enjoys, and which will, at the same time, measure up to the standards set by good literature and good art, and to the demands which the social needs of our time make upon

A few years ago, the slogan for Children's Book Week was, "Books Are Bridges." Since we are so keenly aware in these days of conditions and circumstances that are separating us, and so eager for some uniting forces to live and grow among us, perhaps if we select books for children with the thought in mind of guiding them in building bridges from themselves to others, we may feel that we are helping our children both to increase their joy in reading and to

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the uniting forces.

The very little children need, first of all, help in building bridges from themselves to other persons and factors in their own world. They need to see themselves from the outside looking in. as it were. Gay picture books of the little child's day will help him come to this appreciation of himself as an individual in his world. Simply designed with uncluttered pictures, such books as "Just Like Me" and "Everybody Eats," about children and baby animals, and "Here Am I," about the activities of the child's day, will be welcomed with joy. When the desire comes for a bit more story, Lucky Sprague Mitchell's new "Here and Now Story Book" will be an excellent choice.

As soon as the little child begins to notice differences among people, dif-

ferences in color of skin or the slant of eves, a book like "Spotty," the little rabbit who was born spotted in a family of white rabbits, will help him avoid setting up barriers between himself and others because of surface differences.

Cultural Bridges: Within America

Office and diverse. Often children who live in one cultural group-or in one occupational group, or in one racial group, or in one geographical section-know very little about the boys and girls and men and women who live in other situations. And so they may come to think in stereotypes about these others. "South-erners are lazy," "Chicago is full of gangsters," "Negroes are dirty," "Jews are tricky," "New York is wicked," "New Englanders are close," and so on. Of course, books alone cannot pre-

vent or overcome prejudice. But they can help. If the boys and girls find from their reading that persons who are "different" yet share many of their own joys and sorrows and values, and are often interesting and attractive persons, they may begin to understand that differences are not necessarily unpleasant and that persons who are different do not have to be either inferior or superior to one another.

It requires skill to present minority groups. One must avoid presenting the characters either as humorous or queer or wicked on the one hand, or as the personification of all virtues on the other. There is a growing sensitiveness on this subject. Readers are on the look-out for something to criticize, and authors are self-conscious, and so tempted to mold their characters into a model rather than allow them to behave like normal human beings, with both limitations and assets.

In spite of these difficulties, there are excellent books now available for children in which the leading roles are taken by persons from minority groups. For children from about five to eight. Marguerite de Angeli's stories of Polish

immigrant children, of Quaker, Amish and Negro children have succeeded in creating real persons rather than types, and so help the young readers to feel

they have met new friends.

For older children, Lois Lenski's books about Florida grackers, North Carolina mountaineers, and migrants give boys and girls a glimpse into the lives of some of their fellow countrymen who live in amazingly different social and economic conditions from those of most of the readers. They do not feel as if they should say "poor little child" in referring to these children. for they recognize in them qualities of courage and resourcefulness and the zest for having fun, all of which they admire and like.

Bridges to Understanding Our Heritage BOOKS which give all American children an opportunity to rejoice in their common heritage, to feel a sense of pride in their country, will go far toward building bridges between

For younger children, picture history books such as "Our Country's Story. by Frances Cavahah, select a few outstanding events in the history of the United States and tell them simply so that the child in the primary grades begins to see that many racial and national groups had part in the making of our country's history. And Ingri and Edgar d'Aulaire's gorgeous picture books about George Washington and Pocohontas will be a source of pleasure to these children.

For older boys and girls, more detailed stories of the leaders of the nation are likely to be welcomed. There is a choice between straight biography,

THE Children's Hour LIBRARY

America's parents are discovering these beautiful storybooks for children - lavishly illustrated, sturdily bound in boards, printed on fine, strong paper. Bargain priced at



LET'S GO TO NAZARETH

By ELIZABETH LIGGETT REED. 14 full-color and 20 black & white illustrations by Margaret Ayer. The story of a little boy in Nazareth just before the coming of Christ. 50 pages, 83/4" x 61/8".

JESUS: Stories for Children

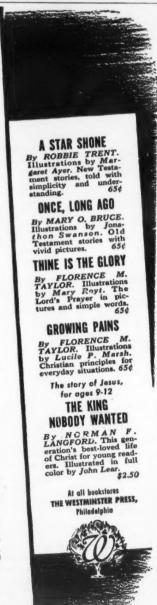
By JAMES D. SMART. 14 full-color and 20 black & white illustrations by Jonathan M. Swanson. Brief stories which help explain Jesus to the questioning minds of young children. 50 pages, 8%" x 61%".



By DOROTHY W. AN. DREWS. 14 full-color and 20 black & white illustrations by Lucile P. Marsh. How 5-yearold Davie learns to get along with others. 50 pages. 8" x 81/8".

GOD'S WORLD and JOHNNY

By DOROTHY W. AN. DREWS. 14 full-color and black & white illustrations by Mary Royt. Bedtime reading about how God planned the world, its people and animals. 50 pages, 8" x 81/s". 65¢



such as Esther Forbes' "America's Paul Revere" and Howard Fast's "Haym Solomon," the life of the great Jewish patriot, and the more fictionalized writing with an authentic background, such as Augusta Stevenson's stories.

Genevieve Foster's vivid pictures in text and drawings of great periods in American history, "George Washing-ton's World" and "Abraham Lincoln's World," will help growing children to feel at home in history, and Katherine Shippen's "The Great Heritage" is rewarding reading for the ten- to twelve-

year-olds.

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If the young reader can go a step further, and identify himself with the human family in its search for values, he will have a vet stronger bridge to unite him with his fellows. "All About Us" is a first book in anthropology, the story of the human family, why we are alike and why we are different. It tells in simple text and amusing yet significant pictures, the story of us, the human beings in the world, going back, back, back toward the beginnings of the various races.

The old folk tales, the legends and the fables and the myths will have a place too in these "rootage" stories. They will be most useful as well as most appealing to the boys and girls if they are told simply as stories. Wellmeaning efforts to give them a modern teaching value have hurt the stories as far as entertainment value goes, and have not accomplished the purpose these present-day teachers wish to accomplish. The child's awareness that he is sharing world stories will contribute more to his understanding of human relationships than will efforts to "point a lesson."

Stories of the ancient world, such as Louise Andrews Kent's "Two Children of Tyre," and of the medieval world, such as Elizabeth Janet Gray's "Adam of the Road" and Jane Gilbert's "Imps and Angels," will add to the child's sense of the unity of the human family

Bridges to Reading Pleasure

from long ago to now.

UST to enjoy the same book is a strong bond of friendship. More universally appealing to children than any other subject seems to be the wellwritten animal story. Horses and dogs especially seem to delight children of both sexes, of many ages, and of all social, economic and racial groups. Some fanciful animals, from the talking beasts of "Aesop's Fables" to the Three Little Pigs, Peter Rabbit, Winnie the Pooh, and Ferdinand, have won the hearts of children for many years.

Realistic stories of animals also have a wide appeal, as attested by the demand in libraries for Eric Knight's "Lassie" and the horse stories of C. W. Anderson, Will James, Marguerite Henry and Mary O'Hara. Two boys absorbed in "Smoky" forget everything

"Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old he will not depart from it."

Here are books that not only entertain but give your child a background of biblical knowledge. Strong and stable characters are made when minds are young.

BIBLE HOMES AND FAMILIES

By Mildred Speakes Edwards

Children love stories about other children. This new book brings to them the interesting experiences of families recorded in the Scriptures. A book that helps promote the value of a God-centered home. Illustrated with full-page pictures in four-color lithography. 64 pages, 6½x9 in. Clothbound \$1.75. 6- to 10-year-olds. experiences of families recorded in the Scrip-

STORIES of JESUS

By Ethel M. Phillips

Twenty-eight stories
from the life of Jesus,
written from the Christian education of children. An aid to family worship. 32 full-page worship. 32 full-page colored pictures. Bound in blue cloth, with Sall-man's "The Boy Christ" on the cover. 64 pages, 6½x9 in. \$1.50. 6- to 10-year-olds.

BIBLE BOYS AND GIRLS

By Ethel M. Phillips
Twenty-four thrilling stories, illustrated by beautiful colored Bible pictures, bring to life the boys and girls of Bible times. Attractively bound with Sallman's "Jesus, the Children's Friend," on the cover. 64 pages, 6½x9 in. \$1.50. 6- to 10-year-olds.

BIBLE PICTURE ABC BOOK

By Elsie E. Egermeier There are many ABC books but this one is unusual. The stories are Bible favorites most entertainingly told for young minds. Each story is accompanied with a full-page picture in vivid colors. 64 pages, 6½x9 in. Clothbound. \$1.50.

GOD'S FRIENDLY WORLD By Esther Martin



Children will be captivated with these il-lustrated poetical ac-counts of Little Brown Seeds, Kitty, Bunny, Snow Flakes, Meadow Flowers, Thank You Prayers. In all, 28 poems and pictures that thrill the child with the wonderful

for God who created it. Plastic ring bound, 32 pages. 75c. 4- to 7-year-olds.



DO YOU KNOW?

By Marion May

captivating Bible guess game book. Through the medium of pictures and rhymes a great Bible character is portrayed and then the child is asked

Printed in 2 colors, plastic ring bound, 64 pages, 64/4x9½ inches. \$1.25. 4- to 8-year-olds.

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clear and beautiful reading for both youth and delightful reading for the state of the with a multitude of black and white pictures and 32 full-page four-color illustrations. 642 pages. Clothbound with colorful jacket. A big value at only \$2.95.

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that might separate them in the common joy in the stamina and accomplishments of the horse. Good animal stories also have an unusually wide age-range appeal, and so make excellent readaloud books for the family. Mother and Father will find "Justin Morgan" or "Misty of Chincoteague" almost as absorbing as will the boys and girls.

Harry Lauder used to say that folks cannot sing together and hate one another. It is true also that folks cannot laugh together and hate one another. Little children and boys and girls need some gay nonsense tales, told simply for the fun of it. Sometimes the nonsense will be in the words themselves and children will find pleasure simply in mouthing the strange syllables. Sometimes the nonsense will be in the situations, and sometimes it will be in the characters. "The Owl and the Pussy Cat" and "Alice in Wonderland" both appeal. From nonsense to humor and fantasy takes children to the "Story of Dr. Doolittle," "When We Were Very Young," and "Wind in the Willows '

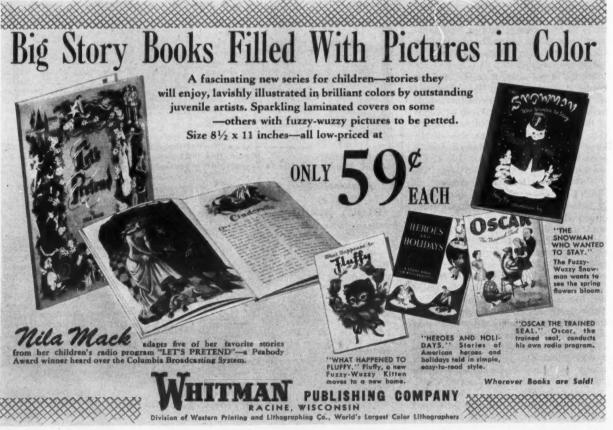
In this type of book, almost more than in any other, tastes differ. "Alice" just does not appeal to some children at all, while others read and re-read it with joy. But while the fanciful humor is not universally attractive, books of humor in which persons or animals do things which *could* happen, but which

represent up-side-down situations, almost always amuse children. If teachers or others usually dignified and in positions of responsibility act incongruously it seems to tickle children enormously. Or if some device showers upon them treats usually available only in rationed quantities, they are full of glee, as they are as they read about Homer Price and his doughnut machine.

Children need this type of humor to give them relief from the tensions and demands of present-day living, to give them change from the every-day environment, to let them escape into sheer fun. If the boys and girls of our country can chuckle together over "Capt'n Dow," they will find a strong bond of unity among them.

Bridges to Other Countries

HELPING boys and girls to understand and feel concern for the persons of other countries makes special demands on books. There are, of course, straight informational books about the various countries of the world, many of them very well prepared and intrinsically interesting. But if one chooses fiction to help acquaint boys and girls with other lands, it is essential that the story be first of all a good story. No amount of important and useful information can excuse a writer, in the minds of children, for



giving them weak characters, an insubstantial plot, dull writing.

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Fortunately, there are now available for children some excellent stories in which the characters are boys and girls of other lands, set in authentic backgrounds in their own countries. Children would have loved "Little Pear" and "Heidi," whatever their setting: and Kate Seredy's "Good Master" is a favorite not primarily because it is laid in Hungary but because it is a fine story. And a story as good as "Li Lun, Lad of Courage," would be popular whatever the nationality of its hero. That the hero is a Chinese boy and the background true to the facts give it the added advantage of helping American boys and girls to understand and appreciate some experiences of Chinese children.

Bridges to Religion

THOUGH it is distressingly true at this period in our history that religious wars are threatening in some parts of the world, true religion should be a tremendously significant force in unifying men. Books for the instruction of children in the specific tenets of their own faith are not, of course, books to be chosen for general reading. But in addition to these materials in religious education, there is an important place for books which seek to help children

feel a common sense of human fellowship rooted in the friendliness of the universe and the love of God. Not tolerance for another person's faith, but appreciation of it, brings a sense of unity in diversity.

FLORENCE FITCH has given boys and girls two outstanding books in this important field, "One God" and "Their Search for God," interpreting through pictures and brief explanatory text the worship of various faiths. Several selections of Bible verses, beautifully illustrated, have recently been made, outstanding among which is "Small Rain"; and there are books of prayers which might appropriately be offered to children of many faiths.

"Tell Me about God" and its companion books offer interpretations in conversation of the Christian faith in terms of childhood experience. "God's First Children," by Esther Salminen, is a straight-forward and robust telling of the Old Testament stories. Dr. Good-speed's "Junior Bible" is a collection of readings brought together with brief comment, and "Stories of the Book of Books" by Grace McGavran is a group of stories of the Bible in many lands.

Yes, beloved books may be for children real bridges, bringing them closer to one another in true appreciation and

friendship.

REVIEWS OF THE NEW

BIBLE A B C, by Elsie E. Egermeier. BIBLE A B G, by Elsie E. Egermeier. For little children. A beautiful way to learn the alphabet. Bible stories and short rhymes, such as: "C is for children on whom Jesus smiled; then blessings He gave to each dear little child." Every story illustrated. Highly recommended. (Warner Present \$1.50) Press. \$1.50)

EGERMEIER'S BIBLE STORY BOOK. The ideal story book for all ages. Even grown-ups will find much to learn in its pages. A large, handsome book profusely illustrated with color photographs, drawings and maps. Rich in dramatic appeal yet simply written. (Warner Press, \$2.95)

THE BIBLE FOR YOUNG FOLKS, edited by John Stirling. The title of this edition of the Bible is accurate. The volume is lovely beyond my words to describe it. There are many collected Bible stories, but nowhere until here have I found any volume that in the rich, inspiring language of the Bible it elf tells these ing language of the Bible itself tells these stories as I have long waited for them to be told. Unmistakably the purpose of the editors has been to make the Bible itself loved, enjoyed and easily understood by every child. The book is fully and exquisitely illustrated in color. There are many special features. D. A. P. (Consolidated Book Publishers, 576 pp., \$6.95)

CHILD'S GARDEN OF BIBLE A CHILD'S GARDEN OF BIBLE STORIES, by Arthur W. Gross. In simple language and with gorgeous illustrations in color, this little book makes Bible characters come alive for boys and girls. Nothing of the kind has ever been more handsomely done. Here editorial intelligence with restricted to the control of t with rare discernment features fine writing. D. A. P. (Concordia, \$2.60)

JOHNNY BLOSSOM, by Dikken Zwilg-

BOOKS FOR CHILDREN

meyer. Translated from the Norwegian by meyer. Frankated profit the Norwegian by Emilie Poulsson. This delightful story, already beloved by thousands of boys and girls, appears in a beautiful new edition illustrated by the topnotch team of Ingri and Edgar Parin d'Aulaire, children's book and Edgar Parin d'Aulaire, children's book illustrators. The d'Aulaires have deftly caught the gay, impulsive, slightly mischievous, but always good-humored spirit of Johnny Blossom. It makes a perfect gift-book for any youngster 8-12; but then it fascinated me tool H. G. S. (Pilgrim Reserve Letters 127 per e. 9.50). Press, Boston, 157 pp., \$2.50)

DULCIE AND THE GYPSIES, by Jack Bechdolt and Decie Merwin. This is the perfect storybook for little girls. The author's style is quite her own-beautiful, poetic and like a song. Here again, as in previous volumes, there are four enchanting little tales, with exquisite illustrations. (Dutton, 63 pp., \$1.50)

DO YOU KNOW? A strongly bound book printed in color on heavy card, answering such questions as: "Do you know what sign is a promise of fair weather?" with a full-page painting of the rainbow opposite. Young children. (Samuel Gabriel, \$1.25)

GOD GAVE ME EYES. Strongly built book telling of the five senses and their relation to normal child activity. The story is mostly in full-color pictures with verses thanking God for His gifts. (Samuel Gabriel, \$1.25)

BUFFALO BILL, by Shannon Garst. The action-packed story of one of America's most colorful personalities. Illustrated. For older boys. (Julian Messner, \$2.75)

ADVENTURE IN PERU, by Sutherland Stark. The story of two youngsters on a 114 Fifth Avenue New York 11, N. Y.



Oxford Books

A Small Child's Book of Verse

Compiled and illustrated by PELAGIE DOANE

A beautiful book for this season and many years to come. This is a companion volume to A Small Child's Bible by the same author-artist.

Jackanapes

by Julia Horatio Ewing Pictures by TASHA TUDOR

A favorite from the past with exquisite pictures in color and black and white.

Now It's Fall by Lois Lenski

Gay verses accompanying colorful pictures of two small children's adventures in the autumn. A perfect book for the very youngest reader.

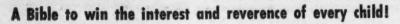
The Animals Came First

by JEAN-LOUISE WELCH Pictures by RUTH CARROLL

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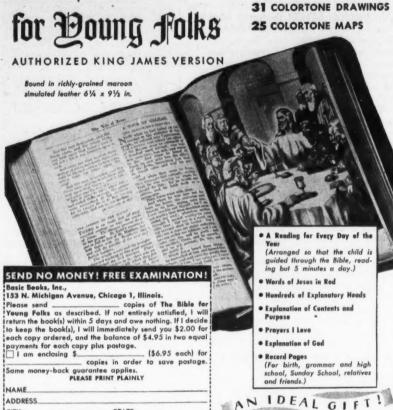
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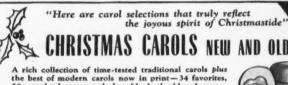
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The Bible

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other books by Dr. Wilbur M. Smith The Supernaturalness of Christ Therefore Stand Profitable Bible Study

Published by W. A. WILDE CO., Boston, Mass.

AT ALL BOOK STORES Wilbur M. Smith vacation trip through Peru, among the ruins of Cuzco and having dinner with a real Indian family. Illustrated by Addison Burbank. For ages 10 and up. (Julian Messner, \$2.50)

GOLD FOR THE GRAHAMS, by Alice Cook Fuller. A Junior Literary Guild selection. Thrilling story of covered-wagon days and a search for gold. Ages 12 and up. (Julian Messner, \$2.50)

ETHAN THE SHEPHERD BOY. The author, Georgiana Dorcas Ceder, while doing relief work in Turkey came to know the Near East, where sheep are led through a city street and where a lonely shepherd watches his flock on a barren hill. The story is laid in the year 1 B. c. and is illustrated. Ages 7 to 12. (Abingdon-Cokesbury, \$2)

HERE, SUZY! The author, Verna Hills, know what children 7 to 10 like. Here is a story with a real plot, suspense, clues and a surprise climax. Illustrated. (Lothrop, Lee & Shepherd, \$2)

A SMALL CHILD'S BIBLE, by Pelagie Doane. A delightful book, beautifully il-lustrated in full color, that is just what its title suggests. Seventy of the best-loved and best-known of the stories of the Old and New Testaments are here retold for little children. From six years to your age, this is your book. (Oxford, \$3)

CREEPER'S JEEP, written and illustrated by Hardie Gramatky. The colored illustrations are alive with action and gaiety. A story of how a post-war jeep changed life for everybody on the Perkins' farm, especially Creeper who won the jeep at the county fair. Ages 4 to 8. (Putnam,

GOD'S WORLD AND JOHNNY, by Dorothy Westlake Andrews. Illustrated in color. Johnny was always asking questions and he found that the answer to the big, important ones was always God. Splendid bedtime reading for the younger children. (Westminster, 65¢)

NOW IT'S FALL, by Lois Lenski. A happy little book of pictures and verse for the very young. (Oxford, \$1)

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By FAITH BALDWIN

HEN it was first suggested I write a piece for Christian HERALD about my own favorite among the fictional characters I have created, I was delighted. For it gives me the chance to bring David Condit back from oblivion.

I do not especially like the word "created," despite its accepted use in connection with processes of thought, and especially with the arts. I believe that only God creates. Yet it is true that through Him and whatever gift He may have given us, we, being in His image, are permitted a sort of facsimile or carbon copy of creation. This applies not only to the arts, of course, but to the work of the scientist, the gardener who nurses the seed and grafts the branch in order to evolve a lovelier bloom or a finer fruit, to the carpenter who builds a good house, to every craftsman-and to everyone who puts his heart into the work he does.

Out of the sixty books I have written there is only one which, while it did not satisfy, at least pleased me, and the hero in that book is the most interesting of all of my heroes to me. The book is called "American Family," published by Farrar & Rinehart in 1935, after a serial version had appeared in Cosmopolitan magazine. The book is long out of print, obtainable only in libraries. It hasn't gone into any pocket editions. Part of "American Family" is a fic-

tionized family history-my own. I selected the name "Condit" because that too is a family name. I chose a background mainly of China and Northern New York State-China because my grandfather and grandmother were missionaries there, and Northern New York because I had spent my summers there and knew the country.

My grandfather was born in 1838, and died in 1902. He went to China with his first wife; a child was born to them, but the young mother became ill. Grandfather brought her and the baby home, but the little wife died on the voyage and the baby girl was given to relatives to bring up. She was my half-aunt, Josephine Baldwin, whom I dearly loved, and who was for many years a well-known worker in the Methodist Book Concern.

Grandfather remarried and sailed for China in the American clipper, Hotspur

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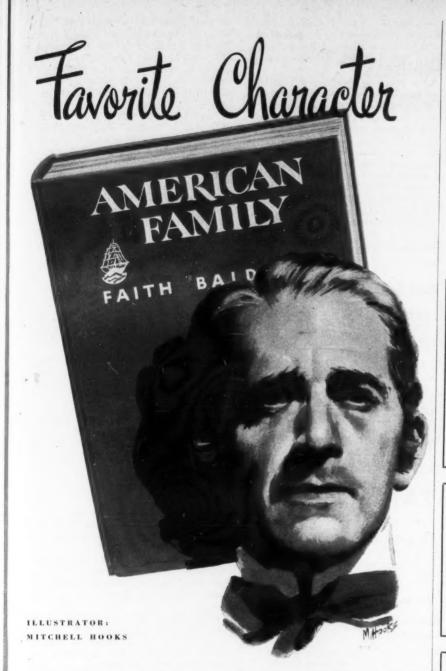
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in June, 1862. During the long voyage, my grandmother had a miscarriage, and so lost her first child. My father, her second, was born in the mission compound at Foochow. Several other children were born there, three of whom survived, and father returned to the States briefly, as a toddler and again at eleven, traveling around the world with another lad and a tutor. After that, he remained in the States, was educated here and became a lawyer. When grandfather returned from China, he became secretary of the Foreign Missionary Society.

Now, my father sometimes told me stories of his childhood in China, as did Grandfather and Grandmother. In their house in Brooklyn I saw many treasures they had collected, including the miniature sedan chair in which my father, and subsequent children, were carried. My father spoke Chinese before he spoke English; he indulged in various wild escapades, such as running away one day and spending much of the night in tiger-infested hills; he had close Chinese friends of his own age.

I had these memories second-hand, his letters written to his parents while he was on his grand tour, some diaries of Grandfather's, and a few letters from Grandmother to her mother, and from her mother to her.

Now, the journals kept by my grandfather during his tenure in China beAnnouncing—
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longed to the mission and we did not have them, but some extracts were printed in old books and I was fortunate enough to run across these. In deciding that my hero's mother would also miscarry on the clipper voyage, I wonder why, and intensive reading disclosed the fact of the terrible storms through which the clippers rode to their ports. I had to know exactly what sort of a voyage David's parents would have, and I decided to send them to China on grandfather's ship, the Hotspur. I went to the public library and found a New York Herald dated June 16th, 1864, and so learned at just what time the ship sailed, on what sort of a day and who was the lookout at Sandy Hook.

As for the story, I used in Tobias Condit a man very like my grandfather as I had known him. His wife, Elizabeth, was, however, a figment of my imagination.

For the first part of the book, the voyage, the birth of the hero David in China, and his experiences there, I drew freely upon my father's diaries and the stories which had been told me. Like my father, my hero returned to the States. But then their stories became quite different, for, whereas my father became a lawyer, David became a doctor. My father wished never to return to China, but David's one burning desire was to go back.

I had to educate David, of course.

So I educated him in New York and then at Wesleyan, in Connecticut. Through a friend I met the historian of old Wesleyan, and procured from him the book which treats of the college's first century. From the book and from talks with the helpful historian, I was able to picture accurately David's life at Wesleyan. From there I sent him to Yale, as a medical student, which evolved much correspondence with people at Yale and with a retired physician who had been, so to speak, in David's class. After Yale, David became an intern at Bellevue, and this meant again reading, interviewing and getting in touch with men who had interned there in the same years.

David's only wish was to return to China, and to those whom he called his people, and to minister to them spiritually as well as physically. I saw to it, however, that he fell in love with, and married, quite the wrong girl, the ward of a well-to-do gentleman in New York, herself quite penniless; very pretty, remarkably shallow and spoiled, a product of her generation—or any genera-

tion.

David's interest in medicine had been increased by his friendship with a country doctor near Carthage, his mother's old home, at which David spent his vacations. And when, after he went to China to live and found his wife unhappy and dissatisfied, it was to Northern New York that he returned to take over the old man's practice.

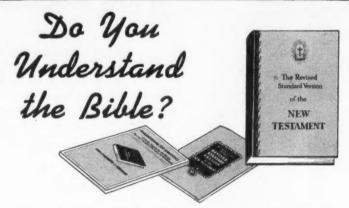
David was always possessed by the dream that one day he would return to China, his work and his friends. In the course of the story, his mother died, and later his father, then he meets again his wife's cousin, Anna, with whom she has been brought up. Anna had always loved David. But not until he returned to the States and saw her frequently, not until his wife's difficult and unhappy temperament had made him cognizant of his error, did he return Anna's love.

To a man of his nature, to a woman of Anna's nature, such a love was doomed from the beginning. Nothing could come of it, and nothing did. Later Anna married, in England, and still later David's wife died.

In the book he married again, a woman much younger than himself. He had children by his first wife, Adeline, and by his second, Mary. His second wife he had known since her childhood, a farmer's daughter, a little girl who grew up adoring him and who through his help became a trained nurse. She brought him enormous happiness.

At the end of the book David and Mary are so situated that he can realize his dream. But the book ends in 1917, at the outbreak of the war, and David knows that he cannot return to China, that he must remain here, and

be useful. The book ends in this way:



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'American Family" had the best reviews of any book I have ever written. The critics were kind, realizing that I had made a serious effort. But I recall that one of them found David "too good" and even said that he "would have liked him better had he gone out and gotten drunk a time or two.

This disturbed me briefly, but then I realized that it is harder, alas, to make a good man sympathetic than it is to make a bad one despicable. Most people are agreed on what constitutes badness-or rather they were at that time. Perhaps they aren't now. But everyone seems to have a different idea of what is good in a human being.

WITHIN my limitations I made David as human as possible—with strong temptations and some impatience, with humor and laughter, and natural fluctuations of mood. He was devoted and kind to his wife, Adeline, but she sometimes irked him sorely. It would, however, have been quite out of character for him to have mistreated or to have left her; divorce would have been unthinkable. She had done nothing except be herself. She robbed him of his work and his dream because of her hatred for China. But she was his wife, she had borne his children, he had taken her for better or worse and he had a strong sense of responsibility. I do not believe that this could be overdrawn: one must take into consideration his background, his upbringing, his parentage and heredity, and, above all, his deeply rooted religious nature. I see no reason why he should drink, any more than I see any reason why his love for Anna could come to any conclusion other than sacrifice and renunciation. It simply wouldn't have been David.

David was the sort-in my conception of him-who is terribly needed in every community, large or small, and in any era. He was a good man, but he was neither smug nor self proud. He tried; sometimes he failed, but always he had that refuge in his spirit which is the dwelling-place of God. What I endeavored to do was to draw a picture of an average man who believes in God, in family responsibility, in responsibility toward his work and friends. Despite the critics, and much current evidence to the contrary, I believe that such men are not unusual. I believe they are all around us, and that they exist in every walk of life.

I am grateful to CHRISTIAN HERALD for affording me an opportunity to talk about a book and a character which have long since been forgotten by everyone except myself.

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THE ABINGDON BIBLE COMMENTARY, \$6.
THE STORY OF THE BIBLE, by Walter
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THE THREE MEANINGS, by Harry Emerson Fosdick \$3.

Young People's Prayers, by Percy R. Hayward \$1.50. HAZEN BOOKS ON RELIGION Set of 12, \$7.50.

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DEEP SUMMER, by Gwen Bristow \$1.
WHAT IS WORTH WHILE and GIANT Power, by Anna R. B. Lindsay 65¢ THE ADVENTURES OF A HAPPY MAN, by Channing Pollock \$2.

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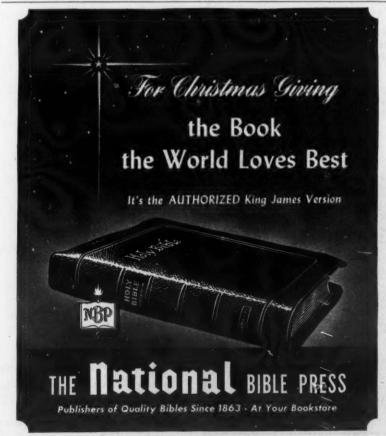
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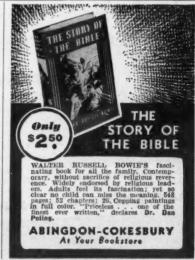
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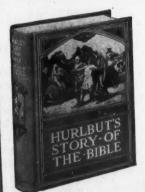
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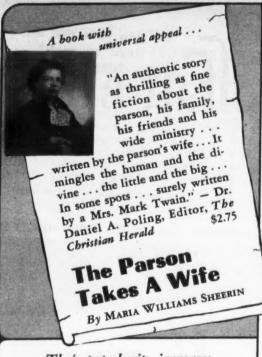


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MACMILLAN

Daily Meditations by Walter L. Moore



Monday, November 1

READ PSALM 126:2

A SENSE OF HUMOR is one of God's best gifts. He who can laugh is welcome in any group, particularly if he can laugh at himself, and if his humor carries no sting of unkindness. The ability to see the humorous side of life releases tension. Lincoln said, "With the fearful strain that is on me night and day, if did not laugh I should die." Life is more pleasant to us and we make it better for others by enjoying fun.

. We thank Thee, kind Father, for the gift of laughter. Teach us to take life seriously, without becoming gloomy. Amen.

Tuesday, November 2

READ GALATIANS 6:7

A bad ending follows a bad beginning.

-Euripides

THE PREPARATION of the seed bed and choice of good seed are the most important operations in farming. The common saying, "A bad beginning makes a good ending," is never true in anything. Byron, who died at 36 confessing that his life was in the "sear and yellow leaf," wrote, "The thorns I have reaped are of the tree I planted. They have torn me, and I bleed! I should have known what fruit would spring from such seed." For a good day, a task well done, or a life well spent, start right.

For all who are laying foundations, for all who are sowing seed, for all who are making important beginnings, we pray Thy guidance, Lord, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Wednesday, November 3

READ MARK 14:72

But evil is wrought by want of thought as well as want of heart. —Thomas Hood

PETER WEPT over his denials of Christ when he stopped to think, the implication being that he had denied because he did not think. Franklin used to say that carelessness does more harm than want of knowledge. In our homes most of us neglect to express our love, appreciation, and interest in dear ones. We could make life far more

pleasant for those around us simply by being more thoughtful.

O Thou who dost never forget Thine own, teach us not only to have good will, but to be thoughtful of the feelings of others. Amen.

Thursday, November 4

READ LUKE 11:1

OUR DEVOTION today is a prayer of St. Francis of Assisi: "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace! Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console; to be understood, as to understand; to be loved, as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen."

Friday, November 5

READ JOHN 14:18

I reverence old-time faith and men, but

God is near to us now as then.—WHITTIER EDWIN MIMS in his "The Christ of the Poets" says that of all the nine-teenth-century poets, Whittier was the sincerest and most passionate in his faith in Christ as his Saviour and Redeemer. He was a descendant of several generations of Quakers and the foremost interpreter of the quiet, simple, and devout people, who have done us such great service in their constant emphasis on the daily practice of the presence of God.

O God our Comforter and Guide, teach us to wait before Thee till Thy presence becomes real and luminous to us. Amen.

Saturday, November 6

READ MATTHEW 16:24

The world is sick, said the Voice, for dearth of crucifixions.—HERMAN HAGEDORN BECAUSE HE LOVES, Jesus takes upon Himself the burden of all the world's heartache and guilt. Does anyone suffer? He feels the pain. Does anyone sin? He shares the shame, because one of His own did it. He wants

His followers to share His compassion. Our fault is not that we wound others, but that we do not care they are wounded; not that we rob them, but that we are not concerned they are robbed; not that we tempt them to sin, but that we weep not over their sins.

O Thou whose heart is laid bare on Calvary, make our hearts sensitive to all that concerns our brothers. We pray, Lord, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Sunday, November 7

READ II TIMOTHY 1:12

I dare not fix with mete and bound the love and power of God.

-WHITTIER

PAUL TAUGHT clear and definite Christian doctrine. But his faith was not placed in the accuracy of a creedal statement, but rather in the person of his Saviour. His triumphal statement at the close of his life was not "I know what I have believed," but rather, "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him." We can be free to receive every new insight into the truth that may be given us, while remaining absolutely fixed in our faith in Him who is the Truth.

We thank Thee, God, that Thou didst come as a person, and not merely write us a message. Gladly and fully we surrender ourselves to Thee in Christ. Amen.

Monday, November 8

READ JOHN 8:32

CHRIST DOES NOT FEAR the most thorough investigation. He encourages us: "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." Scholarship has made its greatest progress under His influence, and some of the world's greatest minds have worshiped Him. He commands us: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy . . . mind!" The Christian need not hesitate to examine all the evidence; light from heaven will help him to interpret it.

O Thou who art the Truth, enable us to face confidently everything that light reveals, and to rely on Thee for guidance to right interpretations. Amen.

(Continued on next page)







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Tuesday, November 9

READ I JOHN 4:8

Still the breath Divine does move and the breath Divine is Love. -WILLIAM BLAKE

IMPULSIVE JOHN, one of the "sons of thunder" who wanted to call down fire from heaven on an inhospitable Samaritan village, was changed completely through his association with Jesus. He was profoundly impressed that the Master loved him, and came to refer to himself as "the disciple whom Jesus loved." In that love he found God, and came to feel that God is essentially love. The Father reveals Himself to us as love, and imparts to us a love for others. A Christian is conscious of being loved by God, and so loves others for His sake.

O Thou who art Love, give us a fuller assurance of Thy great love for us, and a greater measure of Love for all Thy children. Amen.

Wednesday, November 10

READ PSALM 37:3

What's amiss I'll strive to mend, and endure what can't be mended. -ISAAC WATTS

THERE ARE TWO THINGS over which a wise man will not worry-those he can remedy and those he cannot. What is beyond his power to change is not his responsibility, and he will accept it philosophically. That which he can change offers an opportunity to do good, and there is no better cure for anxiety than effective action.

Teach us patience, O Thou unhurried God, in the things that must be done by Thee, and diligence in the things that our hands can do. Amen.

Thursday, November 11

READ PHILIPPIANS 4:13

IESUS FREQUENTLY assured His disciples that they possessed greater powers than they knew. Over and over He encouraged them: "You can . . . You shall . . . Ye are able . . ." He taught them to pray as preparation for work, not as a substitute for it. Paul believed that "My God shall supply every need," but he also was sure that "I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me." Let us pray for a warless world, and let us work to erase hatred and to build fellowship.

Our Father which art in heaven, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done . . . in and through us. Amen.

Friday, November 12

READ LUKE 11:10

And no prayer goes unheeded, all are heard, and all are answered in God's own -GRACE NOLL CROWELL wise way.

IESUS DID NOT SAY, "Ask and ye shall receive exactly the thing asked in exactly the way you conceive it." He did say, "Ask, and ye shall receive."

Frequently the thing received is far better than that which was asked. We come asking the things we want. We are led to seek the thing we need, and we knock for access to the presence of God. There we find what is the good, ask only for it, and receive it.

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Lord, teach us to pray, not only that we may get what we want, but that we may want what Thou seest that we need. Amen.

Saturday, November 13

READ I CORINTHIANS 3:9

AT HOME, in business or industry, in community life, and in the church, our happiness and success depend on our working harmoniously with those around us. The sense of partnership, of being a link in a strong chain, is satisfying. And most of all does one have peace, joy, and satisfaction in the feeling of harmony and cooperation with God, when his life is devoted to the Divine purposes.

We thank Thee, O God, for Thy power at work in the world for good. and for the privilege of working together with Thee in building a better world. Amen.

Sunday, November 14

READ MATTHEW 8:15

And often the grief is lessened, often gone, but always the strength is given to go on. -GRACE NOLL CROWELL

WHEN JESUS CAME to the home of Simon Peter he found that the disciple's wife's mother was sick of a fever. He did not discuss the symptoms or the causes of the disease, but "He touched her hand, and the fever left her; and she arose, and ministered unto them." So in our distress, when Iesus comes, He does not always tell us why we are troubled, but when He touches our hand, the fever is gone, and we have strength to carry on.

Kind Father, when we are confused and distressed with fevers we do not understand, help us to be content with relief from the feverishness and strength with which to serve. Amen.

Monday, November 15

READ PHILIPPIANS 1:21-24

IN MEETING DEATH, whether it be one's own or the passing of a loved one, the Christian's experience of God is most convincingly revealed. Mere acceptance of doctrines is of little help. He for whom only the material world is real will feel nothing of the nostalgia for heaven which Paul confessed. But they who can say, "To me to live is Christ," can also bring us more immediately into the presence of our adored Christ.

We pray for the bereaved of earth, O God, that they may know Him who is the Resurrection and the Life. Amen.

Tuesday, November 16

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READ II CORINTHIANS 8:8

THE ORIGIN of the word "sincere" is doubtful, but one suggestion is that it comes from the Latin words meaning without wax." In woodwork blemishes of material or workmanship are sometimes covered with wax, so that the article appears to be perfect, when it is not. Without the wax the article appears as it really is. So also some people strive to appear differently from what they are. Christ abhorred pretense, and called those who were insincere "hypocrites," actors behind a mask,

We are conscious of our many faults, O God who seest all, and most of all of the sin of trying to hide them. Teach us to be honest with ourselves, our fellow man, and Thee. Amen.

Wednesday, November 17

READ LUKE 9:20, 21

EVEN MATTHEW hid her away in a parenthesis in the story of the raising of the ruler's daughter. A shy, little woman with an embarrassing affliction, slipping unnoticed through the crowd, Little she knew of the Master's teaching, but she believed in His healing power. She would not address Him, she would not demand his attention, but with a fluttering little hand she timidly touched His robe. Not much boldness, not much knowledge is required for us to draw near enough to feel the Saviour's healing power.

Father, we feel ourselves to be too small for Thy notice, too unworthy to call upon Thee. But we would touch the hem of Thy garment that Thy power may flow into us. Amen,

Thursday, November 18

READ JOHN 3:30

That one Face, far from vanish, rather -BROWNING

JOHN THE BAPTIST spoke more wisely than he knew when he declared of Jesus, "He must increase, but I must Nineteen centuries have seen Him rising constantly to ever more imposing stature. And He will continue to increase until the day of His coronation. So also does Christ increase in the devoted heart, and after half a century of serving Him one finds that rather than to vanish, that Face is clearer and lovelier than ever.

We thank Thee, O God, that ours is a growing faith. Help us to see Him more clearly with every passing day, and to strive to make Him known to all men. Amen.

Friday, November 19

READ IOHN 13:34

IN MOSES' LAW it was written, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." Jesus called this one of the two greatest





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commandments, and illustrated it by the ministry of the Samaritan to a wounded stranger. Yet the Master said later, "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you." Active good will toward all was an ancient duty, but warm close fellowship with those who share the life in Christ was a new experience.

We thank Thee, Father, for the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love. Let love be without dissimulation among all the brotherhood. Amen.

Saturday, November 20

READ MATTHEW 6:14, 15

We learn, although it takes us long, that life is far too brief for hate.

—Margaret E. Bruner

IN THE THINKING of Jesus no provocation is great enough to justify ill will. Sacrifices are only acceptable to God when we have made peace with our fellows. Our sins are forgiven only as we forgive. Even real injury is not to create resentment, but we must turn the other cheek and go the second mile.

He lived what He taught, for He was silent before His accusers and prayed for the crucifiers.

O Father, who hast forgiven us so much, take out of our hearts the pride and selfishness that made us resentful,

and fill us with our Lord's spirit of forgiveness. Amen.

Sunday, November 21

READ HEBREWS 12:5, 8

Heaven is not always angry when he strikes, but most chastises those whom most he likes.

—John Pomfret

THE SAME DEVINE LOVE that provides daily bread also gives fatherly discipline to God's children when it is needed. A Christian is not to take his troubles lightly, because every stroke has its lesson to teach. Neither is he to despair as though God were against him, because discipline is the act of a faithful father toward his own son. We have cause to be genuinely concerned when we are permitted to disobey God without rebuke, but we should be grateful for every stern providence that calls us back from wayward ways.

We confess, our Father, that we have been ungrateful at the time for some of Thy greatest mercies, because we recognized them not as such. Teach us to profit by Thy chastening, and to learn to thank Thee for it. Amen.

Monday, November 22

BEAD PSALM 42-1

But my one unchanged obsession, wheresoe'er my feet have trod, is a keen, enormous, haunting, never-sated thirst for God. —Gamaliel Bradford

THE MODERN POET voices the despair of a soul that has not found God. The ancient psalmist also thirsted for

his Maker, but he remembered the time when he "went with them to the house of God, with the voice of joy and praise, with a multitude that kept holyday," and longed to recapture the sense of the Divine Presence. He found reassurance because "the Lord will command His lovingkindness in the daytime, and in the night His song shall be with me," and looked forward to the time when in the temple again he would praise Him who was the health of his countenance and His God.

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Father, we thank Thee for the thirst that made us receive Thee, and that will not let us rest away from Thee. Have mercy upon all the thirsty souls of earth. Amen.

Tuesday, November 23

READ JAMES 2:18

IN THE LARGER SENSE there is no one without faith, though we vary widely as to the things in which we put our faith. James said, "I will shew thee my faith by my works." We all do. One man's faith is in wealth, another's in his own strength. We devote our time and energies to the things in which we believe. A profession without works is not faith. Great Christian living depends on Christian faith; he who has the faith of Paul will do the works of James.

We thank Thee, Lord, for a faith that is great enough to command not only our profession, but our service. Make us to believe in Jesus enough to live His life, Amen.

Wednesday, November 24

READ JAMES 4:14

MARINERS' CHARTS in the fifteenth century outlined rather crudely the shore line of Europe and Africa, but out in the Atlantic beyond where ships had ventured, were legends: "Here be dragons," and "Here be demons that devour men." Being unknown, that territory was dreadful. Every living person is proceeding constantly into unexplored territory. No one has ever ventured into tomorrow, but we must go into it. Our light is not bright enough to see what it will bring, but our faith is sufficient to go on unafraid, with Christ as guide.

Guide us, O Thou great Jehovah, through this and every day, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Thursday, November 25

READ PSALM 5:3

A PAINTING of a landscape without a touch of sky usually seems hemmed in, stifled. It needs at least a little patch of blue to release the eyes from being earthbound. So also does the soul need an upward look every day, lest it be earthbound, hemmed in. The psalmist said, "In the morning will I direct my prayer unto Thee, and will

look up." Man, who walks upright, is the looking-up animal. Let every day be Thanksgiving Day.

Father, we thank Thee that Thou hast spoken to us from heaven, and for the upward look that Thou hast put in our hearts. Help us to look to Thee always, Amen.

Friday, November 26

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READ MATTHEW 6:44, 45

ACTS OF SPITE or vengeance always defeat themselves. We are unhappy because of some real or imagined wrong done to us, and we feel inferior because another was able to impose on us. We feel that if we hurt him, we are the stronger. But the act of resentment only impresses us more with the wrong we suffered, and makes conscience uneasy because of the added wrong we did. The one way of overcoming an injury done to us is to be big enough to refuse to harbor resentment.

Father, who hast forgiven us so much, and who hast given us the vision of perfect personality, help us to follow Thy example in being above petty ill will. Amen.

Saturday, November 27

READ MATTHEW 20: 6, 7

TOO MANY CHRISTIANS have not even made a start in active service, be-

cause nobody has discovered them and assigned them a task. Some have made a start and then stopped, because nobody applauded. Jesus longed for workers who would see needs: "Lift up your eyes and look!" And He wanted them to be impelled by a divine impulse to do something about them: "Beseech the Lord of the harvest to thrust forth laborers."

Father, we hear Thee inquiring, "Why stand ye idly here," and we answer, "No man hath hired us." Help us to see that Thou hast employed us to work. Amen.

Sunday, November 28

READ IOHN 4:36

A WEALTHY MAN, who gives away far more than he spends on himself, says, "Don't call me generous. I'm as selfish as anybody. I've just found out how to have fun with my money. Nobody ever had as much fun with his yachts and race horses and such as I have with my missions and hospitals and school boys." Most of us know that doing good is right, but it is a red-letter day when we discover that it is fun,

Father, we thank Thee that there is joy in the Christian life. Teach us to rejoice in the Lord, not merely in what He gives us, but also in what He gives us to do. Amen,

Monday, November 29

READ LUKE 23:43

MATTHEW TELLS US that both of the men who were crucified with Jesus reviled Him. But Luke found the situation changed. One still pled, "Save Thyself and us," but the other had changed to "Lord, remember me." He was not saved from his cross, but he was saved on his cross, and assured, "Today thou shalt be with me in paradise." When prayer does not change our situation, it so changes us that the situation is not important.

Father, we believe that most of the things that are wrong with our lives are within us. If Thou canst not change our circumstances, make us victorious over them. Amen.

Tuesday, November 30

READ I TIMOTHY 4:16

AN EASTER LEGEND quoted by Dr. Charles R. Brown tells us that the gate of heaven was so narrow that one man walking alone could not pass through; two men walking side by side, one of whom had helped the other, found easy entrance; and when ten men came, who had all been serving one another in love, they found the gate so wide that they saw no post on either side.

Forgive us, Father, if we have been content to save ourselves and unconcerned for others. Amen,

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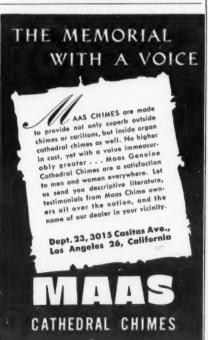
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HEAVEN KNOWS

(Continued from page 23)

back to the house, her desperation growing, a long-legged rooster pecked playfully at her toes. A horrifying thought rose to tempt her: Ebenezer would make fine eating for a hungry man. He was just right for frying. But Billy had made such a pet of the chicken that Hebe had said not to kill him unless she just had to.

Well, didn't she have to now? There was nothing else to give the hungry stranger and simple hospitality demanded she feed him. Only she couldn't kill Ebenezer. He was like a member

of the family.

Elvy started running from temptation, but the rooster followed her. A vision of the man's gaunt face rose to reproach her. Surely a man was worth more than a chicken, she thought desperately, and Billy would soon forget. Setting her lips tightly, she whirled and swooped. Before the luckless Ebenezer could let out a squawk he flopped, headless, on the ground. Feeling like a murderess, Elvy picked up the chicken and ran for the kitchen door.

It didn't take long to prepare the rooster for frying and there was plenty of lard. The stranger didn't seem to mind waiting. He had taken out his harmonica and was playing gay tunes for Billy in the other room.

When Elvy called, the man came in eagerly. He ate greedily, with eyes only for the food. Elvy, hungry for conversation, tried to start talk.

Did you hear about the train robbery in Santa Anna? A man robbed the express car of five thousand dollars! Isn't it awful?

He looked up, his hard eyes glittering. "What's so awful about it? I reckon the Santa Fe can afford to lose five thousand dollars. And I'd say the feller was smart. All you git in this world is what you take away from somebody."

His harsh words sudden, fierce anger in Elvy. "That's sudden, fierce anger in Elvy. "Haven't you just eaten Ebenezer?" To her horror she felt hot tears sting her eyelids.

The man stared from her angry face to the heaped up bones on his plate. "Just et who, Ma'am?"

"Ebenezer, Billy's pet rooster. I fed him to you because I didn't have anything else. Not that I mind Ebenezer, but you've no right to-to-

"But why did you do it?" Now he sounded angry himself. "Why did you give me the kid's pet, even if you didn't have anything else. You didn't owe me anything-

"You were hungry," she said, simply. "That's what I mean. People all have to give to each other and help each other, but they shouldn't steal-

The man got up, his eyes so hard they frightened Elvy. "So I et Ebenezer," he said, flatly. "Well, I'll pay for him."

Elvy made a quick gesture of repudiation. "I'm sorry. I didn't mean to make you feel like that. Of course I can't take money for a meal. And I don't really mind Ebenezer. It's just your talking like nobody had ever done anything

'All anybody's ever done for me," he said, harshly, "is to kick me down when I tried to get up. Well, thanks for

Ebenezer anyway, Ma'am.

He left the room and Elvy stood staring after him in shocked horror. For high on the man's back, between his shoulder blades, were tell-tale grease spots! She turned a little sick as she realized she had fed Ebenezer to the Santa Fe train robber!

Her heart pounding, she ran to the window to watch the man mount his sweat-lathered horse. She was glad he was going. He must be mean and cruel and dangerous. Yet he had played such nice tunes for Billy-

Thought of the child made her whirl in sudden alarm, realizing she hadn't heard him for some time. He wasn't in the house, she quickly discovered.

Running to the door, Elvy called again and again. The child didn't answer, was nowhere in sight. The train robber gave her a curious glance as he rode off, but Elvy hardly noticed him. Alarm was rising in her at the thought that Billy had wandered away from the house, perhaps into the cornfield. Hebe had warned her over and over again about that. "Once let him get lost in there," he'd said, "and it would be like hunting for a needle in a straw stack."

Elvy looked at the tall corn, deceptive in its inviting shade, and shuddered. It wasn't cool in there as it looked to be. The green corn caught and held the hot rays of the sun and the stalks stood so thick and close they formed an air-

less jungle.

Still calling, Elvy ran along the edge of the field, looking for small tracks. She soon found them, the tiny indentations in the soft earth confirming her fears. Elva tried following them but quickly discovered the boy wasn't following the rows, but was crossing and recrossing the furrows in a way that indicated panic. Billy was lost and very frightened and running crazily through the corn!

Unless she found him quickly, Elva knew he could be overcome by the intense heat. Calling constantly, she tried following that crazy pattern of small prints until she finally had to stop, breathless, in the terrifying realization that she too was lost. She could never find Billy that way!

The heat rose in suffocating waves from the dank ground, like hot steam from a kettle. The sun beat down fiercely and Elvy felt light-headed and giddy, staggering now as she ran. The saw-like blades of the corn whipped at her face until it felt raw. Often she stumbled and fell prone on the hot, moist ground.

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It was at a time like that she remembered the creek that ran through the far end of the field, and fear sent her stumbling on again.

Elvy thought, desperately, that she must pray. But when she tried to form words, her mind envisioned the young shoat that had gotten into the corn just the week before. She had helped Hebe chase it, but when they had finally found it the animal lay stretched between the rows of whispering corn, dead from heat and exertion. It had run itself to death, just as she and Billy might do unless they had help.

Help? There was only Heaven to help-and Elvy couldn't pray. Hebe had always done the praying for both of them. Stumbling in the loose dirt, she fell again and lay there sobbing, panic

like drums inside her.

Then suddenly the panic was gone and Elvy struggled up. It was as though she had heard Hebe's deep voice reading from the Book: "For your Heavenly Father knoweth what things ye have need of before ye ask.

Why, that meant she didn't have to pray! She didn't have to be afraid! God knew all about Billy and He'd help her

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It was then she remembered the train robber. Almost calmly she reasoned that if she could get back to the house, catch a horse and overtake him the two of them could find Billy much quicker. Not once did she think that the man might be reluctant to return and help her. Such details she was leaving to Heaven. What she must do was find the house, and suddenly she was confident she could.

Fifteen minutes later she staggered out of the field and there, riding toward her, was the train robber. "I had a feeling something was wrong, Ma'am," he said, hesitantly. "I thought I heard you

calling, so I rode back."

Elva told him, quickly. "You find that creek and patrol it," he ordered. "Keep calling. I'll find the little feller."

I^T was nearly an hour later, just when Elvy thought her throat would close up and refuse to make another sound, that the man came stumbling up with Billy in his arms. A little later they laid the tired child on the bed at home.

The man looked down at him and murmured, gently, "Just plum tuckered

out, pore little feller.

Billy aroused and looked up at them. I losted Ebenezer. I tried to find him and I couldn't."

Looking from Billy's tear-streaked face to the strangely gentled one of the outlaw, Elvy was surprised to see how much younger the man looked. Why, he was hardly more than a boy himself!

The man's eyes wavered under her gaze and he ran a grimy sleeve over his face as he looked uneasily at the sun, now little higher than the cabin windows. "I'd better git going," he said, starting for the door. Cont'd. next page.



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"Wait a minute," Elvy said, softly. "I want to wash your shirt before you go. It won't take long.

"Wash my shirt?" His surprise was almost ludicrous. "Why should you wash my shirt, Ma'am?"

Because it's got grease spots across the shoulders. And a neighbor said this morning the Santa Ana sheriff was looking for a man with spots like those on his shirt back. He got them when he stood under a leaky valve of a Santa Fe engine.

Without a word he peeled off his shirt, glanced quickly at the dust-filled grease spots, then handed the garment to her. Telling him to build the fire and put on her flat-iron, Elvy hurried out to where her zinc washtub leaned against the house.

She was pressing the clean garment when she felt him watching her from the doorway. He said, slowly, "Thinking about that train robber, Ma'am. Maybe he ain't as bad as you think. Sometimes a man gits desp'rate thinking he ain't got a chance to git anywhere playing it straight."

Elvy said, gently, "He shouldn't feel that way. I guess God knows what a person needs and helps him get it. I know He turned you around today and sent you back-and maybe it wasn't just to help me and Billy, but so I could wash your shirt and help you keep out of jail."

He laughed at that, but there was no humor in the sound. "I didn't think God would help a train robber escape, he jeered.

Handing him the clean shirt, Elvy

said. "I guess God knows your needs the same as mine.'

HEBE got home late the next day and at once started telling Elvy about the train robbery. "I know," Elvy said, absently, as she explored the box of groceries, "Mister Staton rode by and told me vesterday morning."

'Staton couldn't have known all of it." Hebe said. "Not that the robber sneaked back into town last night and left the money, every blessed cent of it, on a bench in the depot. The agent found it when he opened up early this morning. Reckon the law was getting close and the fellow got panicky.

Happiness was bubbling up like a spring inside Elvy. "Maybe he just got sorry for what he'd done, Hebe.

"Rats! Those kind of men don't get sorry till they see they're about to get caught. But bringing back the money won't save his hide if the law catches him, and chances are good they will for he's got grease spots-

"Maybe," Elvy said, dreamily, "God will help him escape.

Hebe looked outraged. "That's plain blasphemy, Elvy. I declare, you do have some of the craziest ideas-"

Elvy wasn't listening. She was staring at a brown paper parcel she held in her hands. Sugar! Hebe had actually brought sugar.

Remembering the list he hadn't even seen, Elvy smiled happily. Sugar—and a chunk of the world! "For the Heavenly Father knoweth—", she murmured, softly, and wondered if she dared tell Hebe what had happened to Ebenezer.

A GRATEFUL HEART

(Continued from page 32)

what hundreds of other people have done for me. Nor could they have done for me what they did had it not been for what thousands of other people had done for them. And so the thing goes on in infinite time and space and therefore, when you say 'Thank you,' you really mean to say, 'Thank you, God!'"

The old colored man was wiser than he knew. Archibald Rutledge found him unconscious outside the plantation gate. He had come to beg for food but had fainted from hunger. When Mr. Rutledge revived him he opened his eyes and said, "God was good to send you," and then added, "God is good enough to do anything." When Mr. Rutledge asked an old colored woman toiling in a cotton field on a hot summer day, "Which do you like better, winter or summer?" she replied, "I thank God for both." The grateful heart goes beneath the surface back to the source

PRESIDENT HENRY M. WRISTON of Brown University might well have been describing the convention which was

called to frame the Constitution of the United States when he characterized the United Nations as "a squalling, bawling brat of an infant with only about a fifty-fifty chance of survival. The only thing strong about it is its lungs." For weeks the convention accomplished exactly nothing. Day after day the air was filled with bitter criticisms and accusations. Finally, Benjamin Franklin stood up and addressed the chair, which was occupied by George Washington, and said, "We have been here, Mr. Speaker, for many weeks, trying to act upon this important subject and have accomplished nothing. Only dark clouds of difficulty and embarrassment seem to be gathering before us. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, it is high time to call in the direction of wisdom above our own. Because we have not, that may be the reason why we have been so long in the dark. I therefore move, Mr. Speaker, that it be made a rule to open the business of this house every morning with prayer."

History records that moment as the beginning of the framing of the Constitution of the United States. If the world had a grateful heart, its leaders would go beneath the surface to the

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Photo by Rev. C. R. Baer

ARE YOU 65 YEARS OF AGE OR OVER? Are YOU considering retirement? Would YOU like a home in Florida to which to retire? Our MEMORIAL HOME COMMUNITY may hold the answer to your retirement problems.

FRANKLY, we are not altogether altruistic . . . we have an axe of our own to grind! Perhaps you can help us and we can help you!

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For more than 20 years MEMORIAL HOME COM-MUNITY has been made up exclusively of retired ministers and other religious workers with their wives. At present 90 couples live in their own, independent, four-room apartments. Fourteen different denominations are represented. These couples, who have spent their lives in serving others, have retired on small pensions granted by their respective boards or agencies.

For this particular purpose, and for a limited time only, we are inviting laymen and lay women to enjoy the restfulness and the facilities of MEMORIAL HOME COMMUNITY.

A NEW BUILDING is needed urgently to provide living accommodations for widows, widowers and single persons. Present buildings accommodate couples only . . . there is no provision for those left alone by death . . . no provision for any who must live alone. This condition must be changed. Plans for the new building include, also, a medical clinic, a small infirmary, and a cafeteria.

IN ORDER TO ERECT THAT NEW BUILDING, in order to provide for widows and widowers, we must find those

who can contribute in generous amounts. That's our problem. Now, how can we get together?

\$3,500 will build and furnish a one-room apartment in the new building . . . a home for an individual living alone. Besides, the contribution will help in building and equipping the clinic, the infirmary, the cafeteria and the other general rooms. If YOU give or raise \$3,500 YOU may live for the rest of your life in the apartment you build, after it is completed, and without the usual maintenance charge, provided you can meet the necessary requirements for residence. In the cafeteria tastefully delightful meals may be secured at small cost. After this apartment has served you to the last it will revert to the original purpose of the Community, that of serving ministers and other full-time religious workers. Also, it will become a memorial to you and an appropriate plaque will be hung in it.

\$7,000 will build and furnish two one-room apartments and will help in building and equipping the clinic, the infirmary and other general rooms. A COUPLE giving or raising \$7,000 may occupy one of the present, four-room apartments, without the usual maintenance costs, as long as both may live. The survivor may be transferred to a one-room apartment in the new building, when completed, for the remainder of his or her life and free of all rental charges.

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source of things. As far as I know, never yet has a session of the United Nations been opened with prayer and an appeal for wisdom above our own. After a distinguished philanthropist had responded to an appeal of a certain woman in behalf of an orphan boy, she said, "When this boy is old enough I will teach him to name and thank his benefactor." "Stop," said the good man, "you are mistaken. We do not thank the clouds for rain. Teach the boy to look higher and thank Him who giveth both the clouds and the rain." A really grateful heart goes deeper than the surface, even to the source of things.

He Gave Them Windows

(Continued from page 20)

my friend, but you are welcome to it." He was silent for a moment. "Of course, you could build a code for the entire language on it. It seems possible.

"It is not only possible," Braille said, "but I know how I can do it. Let me be the first to thank you as the ambassador from the world's blind.

From that day until 1837-when the first book for the blind, using the "Braille system," was published—Braille never rested. Ironically and fittingly, the system used the very same instrument that had blinded him, the awl. As perfected by him after five years of sustained trial and error, and through a harrowing illness that eventually killed him at the early age of 43, the system used a key of six holes in an oblong. The vertical side of the oblong contained three holes, the horizontal two. Using those six holes, Braille developed sixty-three possible combinations. After the letters of the alphabet were supplied, the remaining symbols were used for punctuation, contractions, and short words such as "and" and "for.

But when Braille offered his gift to the world, it was rejected. In a lecture on his system at the Institute, before his pupils and teachers from many schools and universities, he showed how he could "punch-write" almost as rapidly as someone could read to him. Then he read back what he had written at almost the same pace as a seeing reader. But jealousy kept his method from being instituted. "He has memorized those selections," his colleagues said. He was looked upon as a fanatic.

Soon Braille petitioned the French Academy for a hearing, hoping that the Immortals would approve his system, and that their influence would establish it in the schools for the blind. But his petition was turned down on the grounds that the embossing system was the best and that "the blind received sufficient training and education through

The blind pupils from the Institute, however, came secretly to Braille and begged to be taught his system. He not only taught them how to read and write rapidly but, through a series of cunningly constructed awls, he punched out mathematical symbols and showed them how equations could be solved. He also worked out a Braille musical code and became a skilled organist.

Not until he was racked by his last illness did he know that he had not failed in gaining acceptance for his system. One of his pupils, a girl, gave a piano recital before a fashionable French audience. At the end of the concert, when she tapped her way to the lip of the stage, the listeners rose to their feet and would not stay their clapping. She held up her hand beseechingly.

"Messieurs et mesdames-I beg of you, my friends . . .?

The audience seated itself. "This applause you give is not for me. It belongs to a man who is dving.

Then she told how Braille had taught her his method of reading books and



GUARD ME, LORD

Lest I should speak some idle word today

To hurt another as he walks along my

Lest one small act should send some soul astrav-

Guard me, Lord, when I'm off-guard.

Lest I should be too harsh with friend, or cold.

Too lax with love which I am wont to hold.

Lest hands shall be too quick, or tongue too bold-

Guard me, Lord, when I'm off-guard.

Lest I should cover my small shining light

When its lone gleam may lead some soul a-right.

Lest I should fall and drag another into night-

Guard me, Lord, when I'm off-guard. -Georgia Sirbaugh

CENOMES

music by his punch system. "He has not only given the blind of the world windows, but he has given them music to weep by," she said, herself weeping.

She told how his system was being blocked by jealous persons and by those who held contracts for embossing books for the blind.

The story was caught up by the French press, and in time the heads of the Institute capitulated to public indignation

Friends came to Braille's bedside and told him what had occurred. "This is

the third time in my life I permit myself to weep," he said. "First when I was blinded. Second when I heard about the 'night writing.' And now because I know my life was not a failure. God works in inscrutable ways, and it was fated that I be made sightless." He died soon after.

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Braille's system before long swept the civilized world, and toward the end of the 19th century most of the nations in Europe and the Western Hemisphere passed laws making education for blind children compulsory. The Braille system became so much a part of the school system that as far back as 1895 the inventor's very name was spelled lower-case in most standard dictionaries to denote a system. Today the system has been adapted even to the Chinese, and a number of magazines around the world (some now printed on powerful, electrically-driven presses) are published in Braille.

A bust erected to Louis Braille outside the saddler's shop at Coupyray is executed with imagination. Most busts appear sightless. This one has the compassionate eyes of a St. Francis of Assisi.

LAYMAN ON THE JOB (Continued from page 47)

accepted Christ as my guide. The people I meet are more exciting. My existence is more thrilling. I can promise anyone in this audience that if he has not surrendered his life to God, he has not yet known the joy and delight that is in store for him.

John Ryder's advice to those making Christian decisions makes sense: "Don't worry if you don't suddenly grow wings. I've heard of men who surrendered their lives to Christ and were changed to what seemed to them perfection. In my case it wasn't so. The surrender was the beginning, and each day or month some new experience is given me that causes me to seek a closer working with Christ. And, as you grow in appreciation of the finer, better things, others lose their attraction.

Typical of the exciting and gratifying experiences which Mr. Ryder has testified to, is his current activity. He is working with E. Stanley Jones and others for church union. Strong in his belief that a divided Christendom cannot stand against a united materialism, he contends that the things Christian churches agree on are too deep and fundamental to let trivial disagreements keep them apart.

Like everything John H. Ryder does, the words he speaks have a ring of truth and sincerity: "Only love, the love of God, the love of Christ, the love that every Christian should have for every other Christian, can defeat Satan and give us the world that is rightly our heritage as sons of God and followers of our Blessed Savior." THE END

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PICTURE OF THE MONTH

Film Reviews and Ratings by the PROTESTANT

MOTION PICTURE COUNCIL (Cooperating with the Protestant Film Commission)

M GM's initial notification of the preview screening of "The Secret Land," was, we must admit, something short of exciting. It simply described the film as "the condensed pictorial record, in technicolor, of the U.S. Navy's 1946-47 expedition to Antarctica, commanded by Admiral Richard E. Byrd."

Very little "come-on" in that. Of course, sitting in an air-cooled studio on a hot summer's afternoon while the screen depicted scenes of glistening snow and assorted icebergs might be one way to forget the heat. And, if one stayed awake, he might see something educational. But enthralling entertainment? Exciting drama? Rollicking humor? Well, hardly!

If such were the musings of the PMPC's reviewers as they filed into the preview studio that hot September day, they were in for a delightful surprise-as you will be if you decide to take the family to see this thrilling motion picture. For here is one of those miracles of strictly "amateur" (by which we mean non-Hollywood) photography which, expertly assembled and edited, has been developed into one of the most exciting dramas you will see on the screen in this or any other year. Filmed by service cameramen, without plot or screenplay, without cinematic direction and without a single "glamor name" to enhance box-office appeal, "The Secret Land" nevertheless succeeds in providing more genuine satisfaction for film-goers than 99% of the glossiest of Hollywood's productions.

The cast of the picture are the personnel and ships of the U.S. Navy, the 4,000 hand-picked men who sailed with Admiral Byrd on what the Navy termed its "Operation Highjump." The villain of the piece is Mother Nature herself, and the unexpectedly adventurous action develops when the men pit themselves and their ships against her persistent attempts to entrap them in her icy design for death. Spinetingling narration supplied by Robert Montgomery, Robert Taylor and Van Heflin, war veterans all, helps to keep you on the edge of your chair while you witness such things as the sudden discovery of a warm oasis in the desert of ice, men turning to prayer amid peril, rescues at sea in the

"The Secret Land"



Admiral Richard E. Byrd huddles by the stove in his little Antarctic shack during "Operation Highjump," engrossingly screened in "The Secret Land."

killing sub-zero waters, hurricane-driven snow that cuts like a thousand razors, and, for contrast, the shipboard humor of Uncle Sam's seadogs and the antics of those natural clowns of the Antarctic, the penguins.

When Admiral Byrd returned from this scientifically significant expedition and turned over to the Navy his 300,000 feet of color film, he probably had no idea that he had here the kernel for one of the truly great pictures of the year. But somebody was smart enough to see its potential for popular screen fare. And MGM, ably assisted by the Navy's own editors and writers of commentary, have taken from the astronomical footage enough to give you 71 minutes of absorbing entertainment—to say nothing of a heap of gratuitous education!

Appropriately scheduled for release on or about Navy Day, October 27, "The Secret Land" should be put down on your must-see list when it comes your way. And be sure to take the whole family! A, Y, C

OTHER CURRENT FILMS

Audience Suitability Ratings: A—Adults; Y—Young people 12 to 18; C—Children under 12.

Editor's Note: Except where so stated, these reviews are not to be construed as endorsements, either of specific films or of movie-going in general. They are for the guidance of readers who attend motion pictures, not inducements to those who do not. The "suitability" c.assification, moreover, is no guarantee the film is flawless; it is merely a guide. Films starred thus (*) are of exceptional merit.

★ AN ACT OF MURDER (Universal-International). Not at all the kind of story the title implies, this treats of the problem: Is "mercy killing" ever justified? Faced with this question in an intensely personal way is Fredric March as a strictly letter-of-the-law judge who learns from the family doctor that his beloved wife must soon die, and in great pain. The husband-and-wife relationship is beautifully portrayed, the acting superb, and the manner in which the problem is presented is as absorbing as it is ethically satisfying.

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RACHEL AND THE STRANGER (RKO). Based on the novel "Rachel" by Howard Fast, this is a tale of early American hardships, told with excellent feeling for the mood and spirit of the story. The wild wilderness, filled with equally wild Indians and animals contesting every step of the homesteaders, all give a graphic impression of life on the frontier. The pioneer flavor is produced without artificiality. An Indian attack is realistic but not overdone. Some folk music, woven in as a background, is highly pleasing.

A, Y, C

THE GENTLEMAN FROM NO-WHERE (Columbia). A night watchman, coached by an insurance detective to impersonate a business man who absconded years before with a huge sum of money, causes many complications in business and the home. Suspense and a surprise ending make this an entertaining mystery film. A

ISN'T IT ROMANTIC? (Paramount). Maybe the answer is yes, especially for those who can remember 1905 in Indiana. Take three pretty daughters of a father too proud to work, three rather harmless young men and a villain who almost gets away with one of the girls and a share of the town's money, and you have the story. Will do the whole family no harm.

A, Y, C

AN INNOCENT AFFAIR (United Artists). As a comedy of matrimonial misunderstandings, this gives Madeleine Carroll and Fred MacMurray a chance to show one way of coping with an alluring female client and a potentially dangerous "other man." Clever dialogue and skillful direction, but the lack of unselfish motives in both husband and wife leaves little hope for permanent peace. Many scenes are in night clubs, with much drinking. A, Y

FOR THE LOVE OF MARY (Universal-International). Those in this film who love Mary (Deanna Durbin) include quite a lot of people. Although the picture involves the President of the United States, the Supreme Court Justices and practically everybody else in the government in superficial nonsense, it is clean fun. Some may protest that good taste should not permit the highest officials of our land to be used for such satire. But the acting is uniformly superior, the technical qualities of the production excellent, and the music beautiful.

A. Y

BLACK EAGLE (Columbia). An exciting wild-west story of a beautiful horse and some human beings who do not measure up too well in comparison with the animal. The acting is wooden, the ethical values confused, and there is cruelty to men and beasts.

A, Y

BODYGUARD (RKO). A plain-clothes officer becomes a bodyguard for a woman who owns a meat-packing plant. The officer soon learns that his own life is really in danger. The suspense is sustained almost too long and gets more than a bit gruesome at times. Right and wrong are pretty well scrambled. This picture proves again that gangsterism as a film subject is being overworked.

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TEXAS, BROOKLYN AND HEAVEN (United Artists). Between drinks, a bartender tells this story about a girl and boy from Texas who live a while in Brooklyn.

It is difficult to imagine a more boring film.

TWO GUYS FROM TEXAS (Warner).
Dennis Morgan and Jack Carson are "two guys" who find a dude ranch in Texas all done up in technicolor. There are pretty girls, pleasing songs, a rodeo, Indians, gangsters, several romances, some comedy—what more can a western have? Good family entertainment.

A, Y, C

URUBU (United Artists). The Matto Grosso jungle of Brazil is the setting for most of this adventure story about the Urubu Indians, sometimes called "the Vulture People." Two explorers go to the jungle in search of Colonel James Fawcett, who went to the Matto Grosso some years ago. Breath-taking are many of the scenes, especially those of battle with the Chevantes. However, the filming of the native dances, the jungle life, and modes of transportation are excellent. A small plot is used to move the action along. If children see this, the significance of the story should be explained to them.

A, Y, C

VARIETY TIME (RKO). As its name suggests, this is a variety show with comedy sketches, dance routines and musical numbers. Jack Paar takes the part of a radio comic and introduces the acts. Very tedious.

A. Y.

THE MAN FROM COLORADO (Columbia). An absorbing action story of the Civil War, romance and insanity, done in technicolor. A young Union Army colonel, temporarily insane, orders a small band of Confederates shot, ignoring their white flag. The war over, the colonel becomes a judge, marries the prettiest girl in the town, but his insanity deepens until he is killed. Nothing much is proved by the film.

NIGHT WIND (20th Century-Fox).

Johnny's father was killed in the war, but
(Continued on page 119)

Letter to a Rebel; The Magic Bow; The Main Street Kid; Man Eater of Kumaon; The Mating of Millie; Magic Town; Mr. Reckless; Mystery in Mexico; Mr. Peabody and the Mermaid; The Naked City; Old Los Angeles; The Pearl; Piccadilly Incident; Pacific Adventure; Pursued; The Perfect Marriage; The Pilgrim Lady; Pitfall; The Plainsman and the Lady; Ruthless; Scudda Hoo-Scudda Hay!; The Secret Heart; Secret Service Investigator; Singapore; 16 Fathoms Deep; The Street With No Name; So Well Remembered; Somewhere in the Night; State of the Union; The Sainted Sisters; Suddenly It's Spring; Tap Roots; Trapped by Boston Blackie; To the Ends of the Earth; The Tender Years*; Treasure of the Sierra Madre*; Up in Central Park; The Vicious Circle; Wallflower; You Were Meant for Me.

ADULTS ONLY: Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein; Arch of Triumph; The Big Clock; The Brothers; Cry Wolf; Dark Passage; Dear Murderer; Desert Fury; A Double Life; The End of the River; A Foreign Affair; The Fugitive; The Gangster; The Guilt of Janet Ames; Hatter's Castle; Hazard; High Wall; The Hucksters; I Walk Alone; Intrigue; Johnny Belinda; Key Largo; Lady From Shanghai; Letter from an Unknown Woman; Love from a Stranger; The Lost Moment; The Long Night; Lulu Belle; Man of Evil; Mine Own Executioner; Night Has a Thousand Eyes; Odd Man Out; Out of the Past; Panhandle; The Pretender; Possessed; Race Street; The Sign of the Ram; So Evil My Love; River Lady; Silver River; Second Chance; The Secret Beyond the Door; So This is New York; The Time of Your Life; The Unfaithful; The Unsuspected; The Upturned Glass; The Velvet Touch; The Voice of the Turtle; Walls of Jericho; Waterfront at Midnight; The Web; Wild Harvest; Winter Meeting; A Woman's Vengeance.



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PREVIOUSLY REVIEWED

(*) A previous "Picture of the Month"

ADULTS, YOUNG PEOPLE, CHILDREN: Beyond Our Own's, Big City; The Bold Frontiersman; The Bishop's Wife; California Firebrand; Children of the Moor; Date With Judy; Deep Waters's, The Emperor Waltz; Feudin', Fussin' and A-Fightin'; Four Faces West; Fuller Brush Man; Fighting Father Dunne; Guns of Hate; Green Grass of Wyoming's, Holiday Camp; If You Knew Susie; I Remember Mama's, That Hagen Girl; High Barbaree; The Inside Story; The Keeper of the Bees; The Lost One; Melody Time's, My Girl Tisa; A Miracle Can Happen; Mr. Blanding Builds His Dream House; Nicholas Nickleby's, On an Island With You; The Prince of Thieves; The Pirate; The Romance of Rosy Ridge; Song of Idaho; Shaggy; That Lady in Ermine; The Search's, Sitting Pretty; This Time for Keeps; Unconquered's; Welcome Stranger; Where There's Life; Whirlwind Raiders; Wyoming.

ADULTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE: Arthur Takes Over; Anna Karenina; Albuquerque; All My Sons; An Ideal Husband; Alias a Gentleman; Babe Ruth Story; Berlin Express; Beyond Glory; Big Punch; Big Town Scandal; Black Bart; The Bride Goes Wild; Black Arrow; B.F.'s Daughter; Brief Encounter; The Captive Heart's; The Challenge; Coroner Creek; The Counterfeiters; Cry of the City; Design for Death; Down to Earth; Escape; The Flame; The Farmer's Daughter; Fighting Back; Fort Apache; Fury at Furnace Creek; Gentleman's Agreement's; The Gay Intruders; Half Past Midnight; Hamlet's; High Conquest; Homecoming; The Iron Curtain; It Had to be You; Let's Live Again;

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SHEPHERD OF THE SENATE

(Continued from page 36)

stay. He stayed. But for a few hectic weeks he was "pastor" of two of the biggest Presbyterian churches in the country, simultaneously. It's typical.

He makes up his mind and he sticks to it. Some of the laymen at New York Avenue think he's a bit high-handled as an administrator; he likes to have his own way. He's planning to build a new \$750,000 church to replace the present one, and some of them think it's a shame to tear down the church Lincoln attended, and tear out the pew Old Abe sat in. But Marshall says that Lincoln has been dead for quite some time, and there are others to be seated here

who knew not Abraham.

He never wanted to be Chaplain of the Senate; that was a bolt from the blue. Senator Wherry of Nebraska, Republican whip in the Senate, liked his preaching and praying; he called Marshall one night to ask him how he'd like to pray in the Senate. Marshall laughed, "Are you kidding?"-and hung up. Wherry wasn't kidding; he and his Republicans put Marshall over in a slambang fight, backing a preacher lately out of Georgia, while every Democrat in the Senate opposed him. When Marshall got the news, he smiled ruefully: "Well, there's one consolation. They can always fire me.

He is anything but awestruck when he comes in to offer the Senate's morning prayer. This, he says, is just another chance to talk with God. He enters the Senate as he enters his pulpit: swiftly, and smiling. President of the Senate Vandenberg announces that the chaplain will pray. The hubbub quiets down, the Senators stand, the boys in the press gallery and the visitors from the hinterland lean forward. Marshall bows his head, spreads his written prayer on the desk.

Nobody moves until the prayer is done. The Senators watch him out of half-closed, semi-reverent eyes, though they were a bit afraid of him. On the day when they were to debate a Republican proposal to investigate certain Democratic appointments to postmasterships, he cocked a snapping eye at them, then prayed: "Since we strain at gnats and swallow camels, give us a new standard of values and the ability to know a trifle when we see it."

The day they took up the Interior Department Appropriations Bill he prayed, "Forgive us for making so many mountains out of molehills, and for exaggerating our own importance.'

During the debates on foreign aid, he begged God to "Give us clear vision, that we may know where to stand and what to stand for, because unless we stand for something we may fall for anything. Amen!"

Big and little, men like him. Many a Senator, in committee meeting as the

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that bett is b Senate opens, just breaks away and comes over to hear the prayer. They've forgotten that the Republicans put him in and that the Democrats fought him. They never think of his politics; he hasn't any. He is interested in issues and principles, not in party lines or conniving. He might be expected to have some Democratic sympathies, considering his sojourn in Atlanta and Decatur, but he champions the Negro at the drop of the hat; he likes the President's civil rights idea, and he likes Vandenberg, who isn't exactly a Democrat.

The big men like him for his courage, his candor and his style. The little fellows like him because he likes them. He has at least one millionaire in his church able to put up a check for \$39,000 to help liquidate a church debt, but he's better acquainted with the three Negro janitors who take care of the place than he is with his wealthy parishioners. The janitors have a habit of dropping around to hear him preach on their day off-which is high praise in

any preacher's league.

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On the street, he knows everybody. He is a Calvin in his pulpit robes, but on the sidewalk he'd pass for a middleweight or a ball-player. When Summer comes to Washington he roams the streets in shirt sleeves, blissfully ignorant of what the well-dressed preacher should wear. He sits around the cafeteria across the street in a sport shirt; the waitresses and bus-boys know him well enough to call him by his first name-which they don't. He is a born commoner who has crashed the gates of the mighty, but he's still as buoyantly of the people as he was in the steerage coming over from Scotland. The common people hear him gladly; that always makes a great preacher.

When he first came to Washington, someone asked him what he was going to preach about. He replied: "I want to make people realize that Christianity is an exciting thing. I say a man can love

the Lord and not be a sissy."

That idea may have a lot to do with his phenomenal success. He has found excitement in religion and he has discovered that it is fun to preach. He'd rather preach than eat; he'll fly halfway across the country to preach to a crowd of ten thousand or to talk to fifty in a backwoods church. He preached so hard and so often, two years ago, that his heart almost stopped in the pulpit one Sunday morning; they carried him out on a stretcher. He'll do it again; even now, he just can't turn down a call to a preaching mission or a prayer meeting. A hard-boiled reporter said to us out on the sidewalk, after the morning service, "He's the weirdest combination of guts, gumption and Gospel this town has ever seen; we'll never get over him."

Which is only another way of saying that religiously Peter Marshall has built a better mouse-trap, and that quite a path is being beaten to his door. THE END

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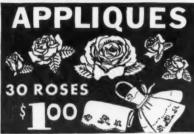


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SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS

(Continued from page 11)

becoming mere formalism. They were critics of the injustice and immorality of kings and people. They kept alive the unity of the Hebrews even when the kingdom fell apart, by calling on all the people to worship the one true God. When captivity came they were the one spark of hope to homesick and despondent refugees. They spoke and wrote with passion and power. No wonder that Jesus Himself "fed on and effectively used their messages." Their prophecies, consciously or unconsciously, pointed to Him. Like John the Baptist they were preparing the way of the Lord. Many of the teachings, and even some of the parables of Jesus, can be traced to their source in the prophecies. In the words of Ben Johnson, they were men "not of an age, but for all time."

OUR PRESENT SERIES of lessons is devoted to a Bible survey. The Scripture lessons are samples to illustrate the topic. For this lesson the "samples" are taken from Amos and Micah.

Amos belonged to a peasant family from Tekoah, not far from Bethlehem. It was a rough, rocky country and here Amos plied his calling as a herdsman and tender of sycamore trees. And here came the call to leave the hills he loved and go to Israel, the northern kingdom, and warn them of their peril. Israel was too prosperous. The rich became richer and the poor became poorer. Heathen vices were common practice. Religion had become formal and apart from daily life. His voice alone arose in protest. Amaziah, the priest, resented his presence and message and ordered him to go back to his herds. But Amos was not the man to go back. His credentials came from God. He could not save Israel from captivity, for the people were stubbornly deaf to his appeals. That was not his responsibility. It was his duty to declare the judgments of God and to plead for a return to His ways. Like all true prophets he knew that he was accountable to God alone. We too are called upon to witness our faith to our friends and neigh-

Micah too was a countryman. He was called to prophesy at about the same time that Isaiah was at the height of his mission. Isaiah preached in the city of Jerusalem. Micah went up and down the countryside, though he found his way into the cities too. Their mission was to Judah. Israel had already fallen and her people were in captivity. Micah spoke to a nation that was afraid. The calamity that had come to Israel was in sight for Judah. Neither king nor people were looking to the one source of strength. The same vices that marked Israel were to be found in Judah. The same lack of vital religion left them depending on heathen alliances and diplomacy for safety. Micah

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pled with them to repent and return to their God. But, seeing their rapidly approaching fate, he sought to arouse hope in their hearts. There would come a Messiah to usher in an age of peace and prosperity. The shepherdless flock of Israel would one day have a shepherd, The Good Shepherd, They could look forward to Bethlehem and a Child of David's line for a deliverer.

It is a great responsibility to be called by God to witness to unwilling listeners. It is also a great responsibility to listen to God's word. Only here and there a faithful soul listened with obedience to the prophets. If only God's chosen people had responded, tragedy then would not be written over the history of Israel and Judah. Indeed, when centuries later, the Messiah came, they would have crowned Him king of their hearts. How well the prophets would have understood Jesus as He cried to the crowds, "He that has ears to hear, let him hear.' But they would not! How terribly like them we are!

Ouestions:

ry ze

ts

As you read through the books of Amos and Micah, note the references to rural life. The same is true of Iesus. What illustrations from nature can you find to reveal the character of God? Could we get along without the revealed Word of God?

What social teachings do you find in the prophecies of Amos and Micah? Are they relevant to our times? Should present-day preachers speak on social problems?

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name of David is attached to seventythree psalms. Certainly he is to be credited with inspiring their wide use.

The word "psalm" comes from the name of a musical instrument, the psaltery, a stringed instrument something like a harp. The Hebrews used the title "Praises" for the collection. They were used in public worship, particularly on feast days and for processionals, for private devotions, and as a medium for teaching and exhortation. In the later life of Israel they were constantly used in temples and synagogues,

It was natural that they should be taken over into Christian use. The earliest form of Christian worship grew out of the forms of worship used in the synagogues. Converted Jews would find new joy in the psalms as they discovered their application to the Messiah. The New Testament has more references to Psalms than to any other Old Testament book. At least half of the New Testament books quote from this book. There are about one hundred references in all. Jesus' familiarity with the psalms is clearly shown in the Gospels. He found in them expression for some of His deepest emotions as well as arguments with which to silence His enemies. In His last hours upon the cross, familiar phrases from the psalms came to his lips. Paul and Peter quoted from the psalms over and over again. It was fitting that the psalms should find their way into our liturgies. Indeed they were so common to the liturgy that Chrysostom, writing in the 4th century, said half humorously, "If we keep vigil in the church, David comes first, last and midst." An analysis of the orders of service used in the Episcopal and Lutheran churches will show the abiding influence of this Hebrew song-book. The same is true of orders of worship from the so-called free churches. An examination of numerous books of private devotion will also show the same influence

In 1528, Luther wrote an introduction to the Psalter. In it he said, "The human heart is like a ship on a wild sea, driven by winds from all corners of the world. And what find we in most part in the Psalter but the earnest words of men tossed about by such winds?" That is the tie that binds the psalms to all of us. They express our emotions, our faith in God, our hope in salvation.

Our "sample" psalm for this lesson is the 24th. Usually it is agreed that this psalm was written by David to be sung in the procession described in II Samuel 6:12-15. That was the occasion when David brought the Ark of the Covenant from the home of Obed-edom to its place in the Tabernacle in Jerusalem. One could picture the scene of joy. Psalms were written so they could be sung antiphonally. The choirs or the



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crowd would be divided into two parts, the one singing a verse or line and the other answering with the next verse or line. Solo voices might also be intro-

duced to give variety.

The psalm begins with praise to the mighty God, sovereign over the universe. From this thought it proceeds. in verses 3 to 6, to a consideration of the kind of worshipper who would be worthy to approach so mighty a God. The psalmist is not satisfied with outward preparation. Too much religion degenerates into formal washing of the hands, putting on of the Sunday face and clothes, and too little attention is given to unstained hearts. No liar or hypocrite can deceive this God. If we only realized more fully that we enter the presence of our God when we come into the place of worship, our preparation would be more thorough.

The psalmist thought of the sanctuary as the chosen place for God and man to meet. Even the ancient gates of the city and the doors of the tabernacle or temple were called upon to open wide and high for Him. Verses 7 to 10 voice this thought, "Jehovah of hosts" is this God. That goes beyond the idea of a narrow, tribal God. The whole psalm breathes faith in the one, all-powerful God. No wonder these words find place in hymns and anthems

praising our Lord.

Ouestions:

For a few of the quotations from the psalms in the New Testament, look up the following references: By Jesus, Matthew 5:5; 21:16, 42; 23:39; 27:46; Luke 23:46; John 10:34; 13:18; 15:25. By Paul, Acts 13:22, 35; 17:31; Romans 3:14, 18; 8:36; 11:9, 10; I Corinthians 10:26; 15:25, 27; II Corinthians 9:9. By Peter, Acts 2:25-28, 31; II Peter 3:8. Use a cross-reference Bible, or the Revised Standard Version of the New Testament to find the original verses quoted.

Give at least five reasons why the 23rd Psalm is a universal favorite.

• Sunday, November 28th

PARABLES IN THE BIBLE

MATTHEW 13:31-33, 44-46; LUKE 15:3-10; JOHN 7:46

THERE are parables in the Old Testament and in the literature of many ancient nations. Jesus was the master storyteller of all and when we hear the word "parable" we think of Him. He was alert to take advantage of the common experiences of life to illustrate His teaching. Most of His parables come from things He saw about Him as He taught: baking bread; mending garments; sowing, cultivating and reaping; selling and buying; hunting for lost things; birds in the trees; weeds choking the fields. There were the emergencies of common life, too, known to all. Some of them had a bit of humor





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or tragedy about them. Those who heard the parables did not always understand their application, but the parables themselves would be of absorbing interest to all who heard them.

A junior girl defined the parables for her teacher as "earthly stories with unearthly meanings." If she had used the word "spiritual" for "unearthly," her definition would be about perfect. Literally, a parable is something thrown alongside of something else. It is a means of indirect teaching. The dictionary definition is: "A brief narrative founded on real scenes or events such as occur in nature and human life and usually with a moral or religious application." (New Standard Dictionary.)

Parables are to be distinguished from fables. Parables are founded on truth or facts. Fables are imaginary stories. An instance would be the fable of the thistle and cedar in II Kings 14:8-10. Proverbs were studied several weeks ago under the title of "Wisdom Literature." Parables are sometimes used to illustrate proverbs. It is not difficult to recognize the difference. In allegories every detail counts. The qualities and characteristics are usually personalized, as when Jesus said "I am the true vine," or "I am the Good Shepherd." Many have interpreted the parables as allegories and gotten into great confusion because they have tried to make every detail of the story teach a lesson. By this method of interpretation God might seem to do or say some very unjust or cruel things. Smart or crooked dealing sometimes would seem to be approved. Many details in the parables of Jesus are there just to give local color and make the story more interesting.

"If the shoe fits, put it on" could well be the principle by which Jesus told His parables. A listener could get just as much from them as he would apply to his own thinking and living. "He that has ears to hear, let him hear" was Jesus' own challenge. If their wills were stubborn, they would permit the lessons of the parables to go over their heads. To most who heard them they were probably little more than good stories. Those who were truly responsive to Jesus found in the parables light by which they understood Him. The principles of good story telling are to clarify, to enforce an idea, to stir the emotions and to move the will. Jesus practiced these principles. No up-todate teacher of short-story writing would fail to use Jesus' parables as perfect examples of the art.

To UNDERSTAND the parables we must remember who told them. No single teaching of Jesus can be separated from the Teacher. There are some things we know He could not approve, because we know Him. His life and the rest of His teachings must be focused on each parable. We must also consider the occasion, the evident pur-



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pose, and the central idea for each parable. If we emphasize the little details of His stories we may confuse

their real purpose.

Matthew 13: is a chapter of parables on the Kingdom. The Jews had inherited false ideas about the Messiah and the Kingdom He would found. They thought in terms of a revival of the empire of Solomon. No better means to counteract this error could have been found than the parables of Jesus. In answer to their grandiloquent expectations of a revived Jewish empire, Jesus told of the mustard seed, so small that it could hardly be seen. It grew into a bush, large enough for nesting birds. So the Kingdom would have humble beginnings in the hearts of men and grow into greatness with power from within. Another example was the yeast a woman kneaded into her dough. This is the only place in the Bible where leaven represents anything good. The life was within and so raised the bread. So does the Kingdom of Love grow from Christ working in our hearts. If you read Matthew 13:34-43, you will find Jesus' explanation of His use of parables and the full interpretation He gave His disciples for one of them.

To illustrate the supreme importance of His Kingdom, Jesus told of the treasure found hidden in the field. This was a common experience where there were no banks or lock-boxes. The ethical question should not be raised when the finder covered up his find and then bought the field with all he had. It was not the honest thing to do. This is a good example of the danger of pressing the details of the parables. The following parable has the same purpose, to show how a lover of pearls would sell all in order to buy one exceptional pearl. The disciples who had "left all to follow Him," would understand those parables. Jesus claimed highest value for Himself. If we really love Him, He will be worth more than all the world to us. "Jesus will be allin-all, or not-at all" in our hearts.

The parables are a never-ending delight to the sincere Bible student. Without them we would miss much of the meaning of Christ's life and teaching. Let us go to them again and again prayerfully asking, "What lesson has this parable for me?"

Questions:

What parables of Jesus would you place under the following titles: 1. The Conflict of the New and Old. 2. The Responsibility of Hearing. 3. Humility. 5. Forgiven and Forgiving. 6. Lifeand Much Goods. 7. True Neighborliness. 8. Preparedness and Emergency. 9. Opportunity, Fidelity and Reward. 10. The Judgment of the Kingdom. (These titles are taken from "The Parables of Jesus" by George A. Buttrick. Richard A. Smith, Inc.)

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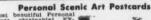
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GRANDMA VIEWS HOUSING

(Continued from page 27)

We consume a lot of this world's goods. We fill buses and trains and boats, and worse still, houses, and we want to give the world something in return-something more than just advice. We do not want to live with empty rooms in our homes while our grandchildren are homeless. We want to help. We are glad to help-to lift as much of the burdens of others as we can carry.

But, let us pause on the last four

The trouble often is that in our devotion to those we love, we attempt to carry loads that are beyond our physical strength. It is no kindness to our children to so overdo that when this housing shortage ends (and it will end) we shall be wrecks, that our children in turn will have to be looking after us.

If two generations must live together in the cramped quarters of today, let us consider some of the ways that will ease the load. Foreseeing trouble is often forestalling trouble. In the first place, don't have them move in with you unless it is absolutely necessary. DON'T. Don't do it merely because by living together you can afford a more classy house. Remember the young family is better off in a modest home by themselves than they will ever be with you. And the same applies equally to your moving in with them.

But, and if it has to be, let us get down to the "easements" for the situation. Take, for instance, the confusion element. What can we, ourselves, do to

lessen it?

To begin with we shall be putting things away to make space-and sometimes for their safekeeping. Let us make a list of the things and their places. We'll perhaps be too tired when we want them again to remember where they are.

Then there is our rising hour, We have been accustomed, perhaps, in our recent years to rising a bit later. But the little ones are going to waken early and bear down on us. "Grandma what's this? Grandma do you want this? Can I have it?" says the little voice at your elbow as you dress.

In a moment when your eyes are off the small hands, something is spilled or something precious broken. Perhaps it is just as well if we do not begin our day too early-if we keep the door closed. The young mother will appreciate it too. She has generally been used in her own home to getting her hus-band off to work and her brood off to school. She can do it better alone. She will appreciate kitchen and breakfast nook and bathroom space for family use during that hour of hustle and bustle. And we shall be better able to deal with things later when we have dressed and had breakfast quietly.

Then let us be sure to take an hour



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The matter of entertaining too, often presents quite a snag. When our old friends drop in to see us it isn't quite the same to them if our families are al-

ways present.

Let it be understood beforehand that the living room is ours when our friends come. And it is only fair in return to lay off the young when they have their friends in. We oldsters are apt to be a restraint. They will feel more at home if they can entertain in their own way.

If you live in the city and do the marketing, consider a little before you commence taking the children with you. Marketing requires thought these days.

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The Churches of Christ must cease being a collection of fiddles, flutes, trumpets, and drums tuning up continuously and competitively in a program of discord. We must now without delay swing into the symphony of the gospel, unitedly and harmoniously proclaiming the will of God for the nations.

-Edwin T. Dahlberg

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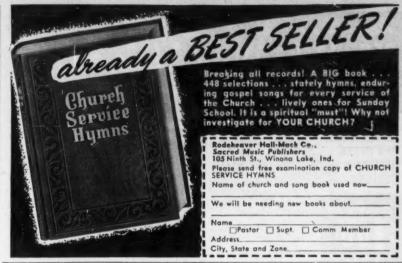
It is distracting to hunt children down aisles, replace tin cans, sift out of your basket at the checking counter the things little hands have slipped in. Above all you have to keep them out from under cars in the parking lot. And who has not tired of "Buy this, buy that Grandma"? Would it not be easier to take them for a little ride later?

There is little doubt the greatest disrupter of harmony is going to be our own tendency to break in on the training of our grandchildren. After all we know just how we cured John Jr's daddy when he was acting like John Jr. But while once it was the children who were expected "to be seen and not heard," today it is the grandparents of whom that is expected. We are too "out of step with youth."

Well we've certainly seen a lot of theories sprout and die. There were babies fed when they cried, the "schedule" babies and now the "demand" babies. Once we revered "the hand that rocks the cradle." Then the rockers went off the cradle. Bad for the child's brains. No we are told to rock the

babies again.

Perhaps in the changes of time we'll some day get out of the welter of this "non-frustration." Little Johnny must eventually stop for red lights—or else. And it may be we shall someday decide it would have been better to have ac-







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customed Johnny earlier to life's frustration. Certainly raising children is the parents' responsibility-not ours.

But if the children live with us grandparents are there not sundry matters on which we have a right to be heard? If little Johnny lies on the piano stool and kicks the keys with his heels and his mother can't stop him, I have a right to take a hand. If Johnny stands in the gateway and throws things at the passing neighbor (and it has been done) rest assured I'll deal with Johnny. After all, I have to live with my neighbors.

So much for the easements for ourselves. But we in turn can ease things a lot for the young parents. Perhaps the most helpful thing we can do is to take the children off their hands for some stated period each day. The continuous care of live-wire children is pretty taxing. With the present high cost of help, young mothers have taken a hard beating. A gift of a free hour or two in the day is often to them a little taste of heaven. Of course a baby-sitting grandparent can often be overdone. But if we can, let's try to give the mother a little better chance at mealtime. Young mothers get somewhat starved-too much doing while they eat.

And above all, let us remember that most things come to an end. When the family that made so much tumult for a few years is gone we will sometimes wish, in the empty silence, that they were back again. As Tennyson put it: "Shape your heart to front the hour, but dream not that the hour will last.'

Surprises Are Fun For Henry

(Continued from page 8)

seen, Henry let me in on his little game. When it was full grown, Henry took it to a corner store in our small town, where it was put into the window along with a card that read: "Weight 65 pounds. Grown by Henry Hacker.'

Henry stood outside while people gathered around and gazed with admiration at the gigantic yellow gourd. So did I. Further, I felt I had an interest in that squash for I had watched it grow; I felt it was partly mine.

But the story doesn't end there. When Thanksgiving time approached, Henry made further use of the huge vegetable. A schoolteacher he knew had planned a special program and had suggested to her pupils that they bring fruit for a display. Although the school was in the next county, in some way Henry had found out about this. He wrote to her and said he would like to furnish the centerpiece for the display. She replied she would be delighted to have his contribution. So Henry tucked the squash into his car and drove 110 miles to the school. One hundred and ten miles for a surprise!

But then, surprises are fun for Henry. I wonder what his next surprise will be!



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EDITORIALLY SPEAKING

(Continued from page 18)

churches of America, and particularly to the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, that this editorial deals.

While "Capitalism" is no longer an adequate phrase, what it connotes is inclusive of what we Americans are, have been, and, under God, purpose to become. The very essence of freedom. with the particulars of all the freedoms and with the right to correct abuses and to perfect our form of democracy, centers in this so-called Capitalism. We face our faults and failures, our too little practice of great principles, but Capitalism (or, to use another and synonymous term, the American Way of Life) is also man's open door to better things, and from it comes food for his journey and a light on his way.

To pillory all this, to condemn it equally with Communism-which damns God and denies human personality while it liquidates religion and glorifies stateism-is, to an overwhelming majority in all the faiths, rank hypocrisy. This resolution, if adopted by our great inter-church body (we do not believe it will be) would be interpreted by many as atheistic in its trend. It would make for division rather than for unity.

THERE is a growing weariness on the part of American laymen, who make possible our expanding Protestant ministries, weariness that approaches positive resentment, as the result of resolutions similar to this Amsterdam report.

How embarrassing and even ridiculous our position may become is emphasized by the fact that those who would seem to be the first to acclaim it have already repudiated it. Labor leaders, labor unions and their rank and file, excepting only those responsible to Moscow, know the difference between Communism and Capitalism, know the difference and state it. They do not give equal blame. Whatever we churchmen resolve. American labor knows that what America is now and shall become is infinitely to be preferred to Communism at even its promised best.

This editorial, written for Protestants, does not amplify the fact that the Roman Catholic Church also does not place equal blame upon Communism and Capitalism. In such a time as this, half truths expressed in weasel words do not befit the Protestant Church and can only belittle and delay her world mission. THE END

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IT CAN STRIKE YOU!

(Continued from page 39)

ance. I have my Sunday service and encourage them all to come. Most of them find solace in the Word of God and the music in which they participate. Gradually they build up a reserve within themselves upon which they can rely in moments of distress. Once that has been done, the road to recovery is so much easier to travel."

You will not find one single faith or belief stressed at Norwich State Hospital. Nor will you find the chaplain demanding that all attend his service. "We have spiritual men of all faiths who come in to council their own members. We work together because we have a common goal," he said.

In an institution of this type the personnel is apt to change rapidly, especially since the commercial world offers greater financial returns for the same hours of work. Such constant change often confuses the people who are there. There is need for a familiar face. A need for one person whom these people can confide in, knowing that tomorrow they will see him again. The chaplain, because of his spiritual mission, fills that need

You know the mind is a delicate as well as many-faceted organism. Hidden away in the recesses of it are long forgotten fragments that often serve as bulwarks for healing.

There was Nathan C., who was the head and guiding hand of a well-known bank. He was a big man with tremendous driving power and what seemed limitless energy. He not only served the bank well, but held many offices in the community. For years he rode the crest of the wave, depending more and more upon his own physical prowess; believing in his own star; shaping his destiny with his own strong hands; molding the future of his family with an almost ruthless drive.

Then came the first rumblings of uncertainty. The stock market began to fluctuate and, although the bank which he headed was on comparatively safe ground, there were those around him who expressed doubts and fears as to the future.

Before one cloud was removed another appeared. His only son was stricken with a serious illness. For weeks the boy lay between two worlds and when at last he slowly began to recover, there were grave doubts that he would ever walk again.

Driven by fear, desperation and uncertainty, Nathan's mind began to slowly weaken. One day he was removed quietly to a sanitarium to begin treatment for the illness from which he was suffering.

Slowly but surely the psychiatrist at the institution began to unravel the twisted and tangled threads of Nathan's mind. Because of his tremendous physical strength, he responded to treatment rapidly, lapsing only occasionally into a state of melancholia.

At these times he seemed to be searching for something that was intangible yet necessary for his peace of mind; something he had once possessed but had long since lost.

While he suffered from one of these spells, the psychiatrist called in the chaplain of the institution. He was given Nathan's case history. He found that at one time Nathan had been an ardent church member. He had acquired a deep spiritual sense and a faith in God. But as time went on, he replaced these simple things and began to depend more and more upon his own physical power.

With this knowledge, the chaplain went to Nathan. For a while they talked, but the troubled, almost childlike expression of fear and doubt still haunted the eves of the man.

Then, quietly the chaplain opened the Bible he held. In a clear, steady voice he began to read. "The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want . . .

He went on without stopping, then he closed the book. Nathan was listening as a child will listen to an oft-repeated story that he has learned to love. Slowly the shadows of doubt began to leave his mind. The troubled, haunted look fled from his eyes and in its place there was one of confidence and hope, not in the man himself but in something that was beyond this physical world-something lasting, eternal,

Gone were all doubts and fears as to the future and in their place was hopea hope that had lain there waiting.

You have read of the conflict between religion and science. Yet at this hospital the two work together in all phases. While science rebuilds the shattered mind, even as a carpenter would repair a damaged dwelling, the other, religion, bolsters the work by using faith in one's self and in a Superior Being as a pillar to lean upon in hours of anguish and distress

Both mediums have an antagonistic public to overcome. Agencies such as motion pictures, radio, magazines and tabloid papers have repeatedly printed or broadcast lurid tales in which there was not the remotest conception of scientific data or religious fundamentals. Motion pictures have given the impression that psychiatrists are either drivelling idiots or unleashed morons who will stoop to anything to achieve the diabolical. While religion has long ago been replaced by glamour, sex and murder in the minds of too many people.

It is seldom that one hears or reads about the work that is really accomplished by this combination of forces. Yet the work goes on daily with results that are slightly less than miraculous.

Nor does the antagonism end within the walls of the mental hospital. Once released from a sanitarium as cured, the patient must steel himself against the



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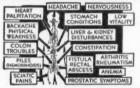
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world and its thoughtlessness. Mere physical-strength is not enough. Something deeper and less tangible must be there to draw upon-a spiritual faith that is unfaltering.

And men like Chaplain Mathewson try to communicate this faith through the church. Yet strangely enough when such an illness strikes, the last place the family of the stricken member turns is to the church.

There was one minister who spent the greater part of his life as the pastor of a church in a small town. At last he received a call to go to another parish. During the passing of the years he had missed certain members of his congregation. Before leaving he questioned the members of the families and was shocked to learn that five of them had been away for treatment of a mental nature.

You can imagine the dismay of this man. But can you begin to understand the tortured, lost feeling of those who were denied the solace of the church in their greatest trial?

You have read in novels of the nineteenth century of the "upper chamber" from which strange and unusual sounds issued. Perhaps you have even been amused that a novelist should think up such cheap situations to hold the reader's attention. After all, that was a century ago. But did you read about the girl who was kept chained to her bedpost for over five years, without as much liberty as would be given a household pet? Of course, you say, her parents were uneducated, backward individuals whose only thought was their great love for their daughter.

But you are wrong. Both parents were college graduates and the father held a position of esteem in the city where the case was uncovered. The motive behind the act was not love, it was shame and pride of family name. Yet, upon examination, psychiatrists agreed that had that girl been given the proper care, she could have taken her place in society and contributed to its betterment. Had this family consulted anyone freely, a doctor or a man like Chaplain Mathewson, the whole problem could have been solved without heartbreak. But no ...

The entrance of religion into this field may well be the turning point toward a more Christian attitude in relation to institutions and the valiant work they are doing. If the public can be made to realize that, after all, such an illness is not a disgrace, then the battle will be half won. Until such a time comes, the work of men like Chaplain Mathewson will be uphill all the way.

And that is the summing up. That is the simple creed of all men who are their brother's keeper. Within it is the plea for a more compassionate understanding by people like you and me for those who are or have been mentally THE END

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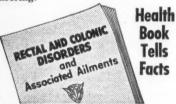
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Eggsplain!

At the conclusion of a nature lesson,

the teacher turned to her pupils.
"Now, don't you think it's wonderful, children, how the little chickens get out of their shells?" Whereupon a little girl piped up with, "What beats me teacher, is how they get in!"

'Round and 'Round

Husband: "The bank has returned your check.

Wife: "Isn't that just wonderful! What shall we buy with it this time?

Just Undecided

Small Betty was all eyes at the fash-

ionable church wedding.
"Did the lady change her mind?" she whispered to her mother.

"Why no. What makes you think

"'Cause she went up the aisle with one man and came back with another."

That's That!

There are two reasons why some people don't mind their own business. One is that they haven't any mind; the other, they don't have any business.

Inside Story

Lecturer-"Of course, we all know

what the inside of a corpuscle is like." Chairman of Meeting—"Most of us do, but you better explain for the benefit of them as has never been inside

Where There's Life . . .

Sue-"Last week when that bear got out you ran away and left me, and you just had told me that you would face

death for me."

Dick-"Yes, I would-but that bear wasn't dead.

Anything Special?

Boss to employee coming in late: "You should have been here half an hour ago.

Employee: "Why, what happened?"

Vocal Point

Opera Star: "Yes, twenty long years I have sung in ze Metropolitan.

Admirer: "Gee, you musta known Madame Butterfly when she was only a caterpillar!" . -McCall Spirit.

Wanderlust?

Mother (fondly watching her two-year-old)—"He's been walking like that for almost a year."

Bored Visitor—"Amazing; can't you

make him sit down?" -Builders.

Modest

A farmer, in great need of extra hands at haying time, finally asked Hubby Holden, a town character, if he could help him out.

"What'll ye pay?" asked Hubby.
"Tll pay what you're worth,"
swered the farmer.

Hubby scratched his head a minute, then announced decisively, "I darned if I'll work fir that little!"

Purl Two!

As the ship was about to leave the harbor an old lady was knitting on deck. "Cast off there," shouted an of-

"Thank you, officer," said the old lady tartly, "but I am quite capable of do-ing my own knitting."

Sign Language

"I am a woman of few words," said the haughty mistress to the new maid. "If I beckon with my finger I mean 'Come'.

"I am a woman of few words, too," replied the maid. "If I shake my head I mean I ain't comin'.

Father Didn't!

When Mother found Junior crying on a corner, she asked, "What is the matter, dear?"
"Daddy hit his thumb with a hammer," said Junior.
"You shouldn't cry over that," said his mother. "You should just have?"

his mother. "You should just laugh."
I did laugh," whimpered Junior.

\$64 Question

Willie," said his mother, "I wish you would run across the street and see how old Mrs. Brown is this morning.

A few minutes later Willie returned to report: "Mrs. Brown says it's none of your business how old she is." -Advance.



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MOTION PICTURES

(Continued from page 103)

he does have his dog Flame, a veteran of the K-9 Corps who had seen action with his father. The boy's love for the animal shuts out every other affection until a tense dramatic situation teaches him love for his understanding stepfather. The family situations are well handled. A. Y. C.

ONE TOUCH OF VENUS (Universal-International). An entertaining, often amusing combination of the Cinderella fairy-story idea and the Greek myth "Pygmalion." The story here is given a modern touch. A statue of Venus, treasured possession of a department store head, comes to life and disappears, causing great con-fusion in the store and both pleasure and trouble for the young store employee who awakens her and whom she trails around. Good acting by a cast headed by Ava Gardner and Robert Walker, plus attractive settings and costumes, evolve into good entertainment of the lighter variety. A, Y

SINGIN' SPURS (Columbia). Consists of a dude ranch, pretty girls, Hoosier Hot Shots singing catchy songs and American Indians fairly portrayed. A marriage ceremony used for comedy is never funny, and is especially objectionable here. A, Y, C

STATIONS WEST (RKO). Set in the days when the Wells-Fargo Express was the lifeline of a settlement, this is a rugged story, well told. Excellent photography and well-sustained suspense. Marred by drinking, gambling, and sudden death. A. Y

THE CREEPER (20th Century-Fox). Undoubtedly to be listed as a "horror picture," this is a melodramatic film with Jeckyl and Hyde twist. It is a story of scientific experiments in an attempt to reach supernatural results. Terror is built up through sleep-walking, mental distortions, and brutal murders. The "horror" involved is partly the viewer's horror that it should ever have been produced, let alone shown to the public.

ROPE (Warner). Alfred Hitchcock, British producer-director, has used many interesting devices in this psychological melodrama, but the suspense and horror of the film will overshadow everything else for most people. Revolving around a murder committed by two intellectual but degenerate college men to prove they are above moral concepts, the story has a morbidity seldom surpassed.

LARCENY (Universal-International). A tense and unpleasant drama of intrigue, swindling and racketeering in which reputable trusting people are fleeced, youth athletic centers are used as headquarters to cover up the operations of criminals, and the emotions and loyalty of a war widow are betrayed.

THE LOVES OF CARMEN (Columbia). When Prosper Mérimée wrote "Carmen," he could not have imagined what Hollywood and Rita Hayworth as the gypsy would do with the story. The film version lacks Bizet's music, and in spite of the lavish production it turns out to be a garish, dull picture. A, Y

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mr. Brownell and Child Adoption

TO THE EDITOR: We have read with great interest the articles on adoption by Frederick G. Brownell (July and August, '48) and wish to congratulate you on your interest in this important service for children. However, we are disturbed at some of the things Mr. Brownell said. . . . The picture of adoption problems, as he presents it, in our judgment is neither as simple nor as bad as he describes it. In his reference to the rights of natural parents versus rights of children, Mr. Brownell seems to overlook a basic concept that the first right of a child is to his natural parents. . . . Furthermore, he tends to discredit all foster care of children, both in institutions and foster homes, as though it were all inherently bad. He gives the impression that the majority of children receiving such care lack the interest and love of their parents, and do not get it in the institution or foster home. In some cases, of course, this is true, but certainly not in the majority.

In fairness to Mr. Brownell, we wish to say that he did point out that some of the shortcomings in the adoption picture-and we'll be the first to say that there are many -are due to lack of funds and trained personnel. We are also glad that he emphasizes the need for extending the authority to public agencies to provide adoption services . . . public agencies in New York do not now have this authority.

Washington, D.C.

KATHERINE F. LENROOT Chief, Children's Bureau, Federal Security Agency

TO THE EDITOR:

It is true that adoption agencies are unable to meet adequately the needs of the people in their communities. The agencies are aware of this, are troubled, and most of them are making valiant efforts to get community support for the extension of their adoption services. . . . What troubles our committee most, however, is the impression that there are in America 1,000,000 "small wanderers" for adoption. As a matter of fact, the vast majority of children under the care of orphan homes, child care institutions and foster homes are older children and not babies as the article implies. . . . These children, moreover, have family ties. Over 90% of the children who receive care in institutions and foster homes have one or both parents living. Many of these are loving parents who happen to be ill or are deeply troubled by very disturbing family situations which they are trying to overcome so as to reestablish their own homes.

In another section the article says that over two-thirds of the children born to unmarried parents need adoption. Very few people who have had experience with unmarried parents would agree that so large a proportion of children should be irrevocably separated from their own mothers. We recognize that there is need for better understanding in the community of

all that is involved in adoption, and therefore regret particularly that an article like this, which will be very widely read, has in it so many inaccuracies, errors, and misrepresentations.

New York, N. Y. SOPHIE VAN S. THEIS Secretary, State Charities Aid Association

TO THE EDITOR:

Of these 1,000,000 children, I am sure that Mr. Brownell would find very few of them adoptable because the great majority of them are not babies but older children, dependent and neglected children who have to be cared for in children's institutions and foster homes because there are no other places for them. These children are not wanted for adoption. . . . The charge that the children's agencies are 'holding" the children away from the eager arms of adoptive parents is an old and specious argument. . . . Why blame the children's agencies for the babies that they cannot produce? . . . Mr. Brownell seems to think that the agencies' fussiness over "matching" the child to the adoptive parents is the agencies' silliness. Evidently he has never talked with adoptive applicants about their ideas concerning the child they want. . . . His concluding four recommendations are, however, logical and worthwhile. It was fortunate that he came to such remarkable conclusions from such apparently biased opinions.

Ottumwa, Iowa LEON R. LVLE Superintendent, American Home Finding Assn.

TO THE EDITOR:

On the whole, I agree with Mr. Brownell's thesis and believe there is much validity to the points he makes so clearly. However, I find myself troubled by the possible public reaction to Mr. Brownell's article. I am very clear that it is written as a constructive contribution, but my own reaction is that it may have a very destructive effect. I think that people on the whole tend to generalize and that an article like this ceases to be specific after it is read. Oversimplified, it becomes streamlined into: "Social agencies do a poor job in adoption."

Buffalo, N. Y. DOROTHY E. REINHART Supervisor, Children's Aid and Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children, Erie County, N. Y.

TO THE EDITOR:

We believe the conclusions that Mr. Brownell reaches at the end of his article are sound and may be of considerable value to children's programs throughout the United States. However, we are somewhat concerned about some of the statements in the article itself and believe that it does present a very one-sided picture, almost entirely from the viewpoint of the would-be adoptive parent. . . . I think that there is real danger that an article such as this will influence public opinion to ignore even the basic considerations of a wise choice of a child for a family.

Baton Rouge, La. LAWRENCE E. HIGGINS Acting Commissioner of Public Welfare, State of Louisiana • The two-part article on "Why You Can't Adopt a Baby," which appeared in our July and August issues and was condensed in the September "Reader's Digest." brought a heavy shower of reader response. The overwhelming majority was laudatory. A few social agency officials, such as those quoted above, demurred at one point or another. Some demanded to know out of what social-work background and experience the author wrote, and implied that, if he is not of the fraternity, how dared he take pen in hand! Our answer has been: Mr. Brownell is one of America's most competent journalists, who, after many years of writing, has yet to be caught in a statement stamped either by error or malice. As such, his study was as unbiased as it was exhaustive.

On what was his estimate of 1,000,000 children in need of adoption based? On official figures from the Federal Security Agency itself (345,000 in one age bracket) plus careful and conservative estimates of the other ages made by reputable adoptive agencies across the country. It was nowhere implied that the million children needing adoption were all infants, but point was strongly made that older children too should be made available, which in most cases they now aren't. While there is no doubt that babies are most in demand, the author's survey revealed a quite sizable willingness on the part of thousands of parents to take older children.

other points where some readers clashed with our author may be clarified by these statements: (1) Mr. B. is far from being at issue with the concept that "the first right of a child is to his natural parents;" he was referring more specifically to children whose rights to their own parents are ignored and whose parents deliberately shirk their responsibilities.

(2) Mr. B. neither stated nor implied that all foster care was bad; he did make it plain, however, that in his opinion foster homes and institutions are inherently inferior to family homes, with which the child will have a lifelong tie.

(3) Mr. B.'s authority for the statement that two-thirds of illegitimate children need adoption (objected to by Miss Theis, quoted above) is the Children's Bureau of New York, as reliable an expert on illegitimacy as may be found.

(4) It is admitted that not all the "fussiness over matching" is practiced by agencies; some would-be parents too have such notions, as Mr. Lyle says above. But Mr. B. challenges the thesis that the majority are so finicky. "Many," he says, "would readily settle for another type child. Why make fussiness and silliness standard procedure?"

Among the scores of social workers who found the article good, period, we quote you these few:

TO THE EDITOR:

We appreciate this article, and are mimeographing it for distribution to our staff and to private child-placing agencies throughout the state.... I want to compliment you on the exemplary job you have done with this difficult subject. You have put your finger squarely and clearly on the major faults and points of issue regarding adoption practices.... Although you pull no punches in dealing with the problem, you show a full understanding and appreciation of the difficulty of it. . . Your article will go a long way toward resolving

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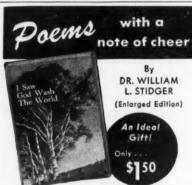
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St. Paul, Minn. Jarle Leifallom Director, Division of Social Welfare, State of Minnesota

TO THE EDITOR:

Your magazine has rendered a very definite service, not only to reputable childplacing agencies throughout the country, but to the many families who are considering the matter of the adoption of a child.

Jacksonville, Fla. Marcus C. Fagg Superintendent, Children's Home Society of Florida

TO THE EDITOR:

We think that your article is an unusually good one and are circulating it among our staff members who are working with our adoption service.

Baltimore, Md. J. MILTON PATTERSON Director, Dept. of Public Welfare, State of Maryland

TO THE EDITOR:

I was very surprised at the very clever manner in which Mr. Brownell handled the wealth of material he brought together on this very inflammatory subject. I think he has been very impartial in his presentation; furthermore, he has given the material the proper shading that should be of some help to parents who are seeking to adopt babies, as well as agencies working with babies. . . Christian Herald is to be congratulated upon its presentation of a matter of such vital importance to so many people today.

San Francisco, Calif. RUTH PAGAN Secretary, Women's Social Service Dept., Salvation Army, Western Territory

TO THE EDITOR:

This is one of the soundest, most practical, down-to-earth articles that I have seen on this subject.

Nashville, Tenn. Edna Huches Director, Child Welfare Division, Dept. of Public Welfare, State of Tennessee

TO THE EDITOR:

This is to express appreciation for the article, "Bottleneck for Babies." . . . For the past few days I have received several letters from various parts of the state on the subject of adoption and the frustrations which persons are feeling who desire to be adoptive parents.

Trenton, N. J. ELLEN C. POTTER, M.D. Deputy Commissioner for Welfare

Merger Chances

TO THE EDITOR:

In reading the "Church News" on page 13 of the August issue I am wondering if your columnist forgot to read the full report of the General Council of the Congregational and Christian Churches bearing upon the proposed merger with the Evangelical and Reformed Church. The Congregationalists have not "finished off the last chance of a merger." The Basis of Union was again referred to non-voting Churches urging a vote on these proposals before January 1st, 1949. Churches which voted in the negative have an opportunity to vote again on the question.

The balloting of the delegates to the

The balloting of the delegates to the Council indicated that the opposition to the Basis of Union was negligible. A substantial majority of the Churches and church people of our Fellowship hope with genuine enthusiasm for the consum-

mation of this Union. The balloting of the Churches as reported in Christian Herald is only part of the record. Even so, it is a report of progress and an encouraging sign of the times. In a less democratic Christian Fellowship than our own, the Basis of Union could have been adopted by a 51% majority vote. The 75% majority required by our Churches was designed to assure a vote approaching unanimity in so grave a decision.

(Rev.) J. L. McCorison, jr. Westfield, N. J.

• Reader McCorison is quite right. Mr. Courier, shamefaced and humble, admits that he failed to note and report the reference of the Basis of Union to non-voting Churches. So dismayed was he with those that voted "Nay!" that he neglected those who would say "Aye!" May they votequickly!

Racial Matters

TO THE EDITOR:

Two articles in recent issues prompt this letter of commendation. The articles are "Sydenham Lifts the Barriers" (July issue) and "Did You Choose Your Father?" (September). More religious journals should be encouraged to print such articles as these in order to bring the subject to the attention of clergymen and laymen, and into the pulpits in sermons.

Hudson, N. Y. PAULINE SIMMONS

TO THE EDITOR:

Bless you for printing that article "Did You Choose Your Father?" It's too bad non-Christians do not have the privilege of reading it.

Fletcher, Ohio MRS. LESTER WILLIAMS

TO THE EDITOR:

I just love Christian Herald for its brave stand on the racial issue . . . Here's a suggestion: Can't we, in writing or talking on this subject, cut out a lot of the "segregation" words? It isn't necessary to say, for instance, "The Rev. James Brown, a Negro, addressed the meeting," or, "A group of white singers rendered several selections," or, "He was a grand fellow, a colored boy from Georgia." Let us as fast as possible cut out these cold, bleak words that continually undo all we have done. Brattleboro, Vt. H. H. KNIGHT

Debt Discharged!

TO THE EDITOR:

The Book tells us to "owe no man anything," so I will pay my tribute to you for the fine things I discover in Christian Herald. You haven't the space nor time for me to tell you of the many excellent articles I find therein, but I want to mention especially the "Daily Meditations." . . . And I'm glad you are giving us covers free from all printing. I use them for pages in scrap books.

Hallowell, Maine Gertrude E. Frye

Likes Our Stories

TO THE EDITOR:

I want to express my appreciation for the better stories you are putting in Christain Herald—stories that are good for anyone to read, and with a moral that will lead to better thoughts.

Fall River, Mass.

C. W. B.

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